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**SPECIAL CONSUMER NOTICE
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NOTICE

On 1 June 1987 FBIS will begin publication of reorganized and renamed DAILY REPORTS. The following list details the changes being made in the eight volumes.

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| I. CHINA DAILY REPORT | Contents unchanged |
| II. EASTERN EUROPE DAILY REPORT | Contents unchanged |
| III. SOVIET UNION DAILY REPORT | Contents unchanged |
| IV. EAST ASIA DAILY REPORT | Renamed; formerly ASIA & PACIFIC DAILY REPORT; contents unchanged |
| V. NEAR EAST & SOUTH ASIA DAILY REPORT | Renamed; formerly MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA DAILY REPORT; contents include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Middle East & South Asia ReviewInter-Arab AffairsIslamic AffairsPalestinian AffairsOPEC AffairsSouth Asian Regional AffairsArab Africa<ul style="list-style-type: none">AlgeriaChadEgyptLibyaMauritaniaMoroccoSudanTunisiaWestern SaharaArabian Peninsula<ul style="list-style-type: none">BahrainKuwaitOmanPDRYQatarSaudi ArabiaUnited Arab EmiratesYemen Arab RepublicIraqIsraelJordanLebanonSyriaSouth Asia<ul style="list-style-type: none">AfghanistanBangladeshIndiaIranMaldivesNepal & BhutanPakistanSri Lanka |
| VI. LATIN AMERICA DAILY REPORT | Contents unchanged |

(continued on back of report)

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Soviet Union

Vol III No 067

8 April 1987

USSR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU Interviews USSR's Zagladin [Frankfurt/Main 2 Apr]	AA 1
USSR's INF Offer Entails 'A Certain Risk' [Katin in SELSKAYA ZHIZN 4 Apr]	AA 4
Upgrade of Greenland Radar Violates ABM Treaty [Lebedev in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 4 Apr]	AA 7
Problem of Arms Reduction in Europe Viewed [Pogodin]	AA 9

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

'International Situation: Questions and Answers' [Lavrentyev, Shishlin, Agayants, Fadeyev, Surguchev, Maksimenko]	CC 1
U.S., Israeli Stand on 'Refuseniks' Berated [Antonov in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 3 Apr]	CC 6
NATO Said To 'Deliberately Inflate' Pact Strength [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 1 Apr]	CC 7
Rogachev Interviewed on Policy in Asia, Pacific [Paris LE MONDE 3 Apr]	CC 8

UNITED STATES & CANADA

Collection of Gorbachev Speeches Published in U.S.	A 1
'Spy Mania' Over Moscow Embassy Continues	A 1
Asia-Pacific Military Command Structure To Change [Agafonov in IZVESTIYA 7 Apr]	A 2
Pogodin on 'March' Arms Shipment to Iran	A 3
Moscow Comments on French Premier's Visit to U.S.	A 3
Levin on Chirac 'Realism'	A 3
Kondrashov on Reagan Meeting	A 4
TASS Examines 'Defense of U.S. Vital Interests' [Vasilets]	A 5
PRAVDA on Postponement of Linna's Extradition [4 Apr]	A 7

CHINA

PRC Vice Minister Cited on Relations With USSR [IZVESTIYA 6 Apr]	B 1
Moscow Mandarin Views Expanding Ties With PRC [(Gimitliyev)]	B 1
PRC Denounces 'Team Spirit-87' Military Exercise	B 2
Paper Notes PRC Protest to Japan Over Taiwan Issue [SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 29 Mar]	B 3
PRC's Zhao Warning Against 'Liberalization' Cited [PRAVDA 26 Mar]	B 3
IZVESTIYA Cites Zhao on Nuclear Disarmament [5 Apr]	B 5

State Council to Boost High Technology Sectors [SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 27 Mar] B 5
 Agreement Reached on Literary Publishing Exchange B 5
 [Radio Peace and Progress]

SOUTH ASIA

Kamentsev-Led Delegation Arrives in India D 1
 Dushman Attack on Tajik Town, Retaliation Detailed D 2
 [Oliynik in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 3 Apr]
 DRA's Khatibk Defends Reconciliation Aims D 4
 [Mozgovoy in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 3 Apr]
 TASS Cites Najibullah on Work on New Constitution D 7
 CPSU Delegation Concludes Sri Lanka Visit D 7
 [PRAVDA 1 Apr]

EASTERN EUROPE

Shishlin Remarks on Gorbachev's Upcoming Visit [Bratislava] F 1
 CSSR's RUDE PRAVO on CPSU's 'Innovative Efforts' [PRAVDA 4 Apr] F 2
 GDR, CSSR Propose FRG Nuclear-Free Corridor Talks [PRAVDA 5 Apr] F 2
 Romania Signs Protocol on Border River Waters F 3
 [SELSKAYA ZHIZN 4 Apr]
 Hungary's Vancsa Discusses 'Direct Ties' [PRAVDA 4 Apr] F 3
 IZVESTIYA Reports on Yugoslav Economic Problems [Kolosov, 4 Apr] F 4

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Gorbachev Sends Message on Relations to Peres H 1
 [Tel Aviv HADASHOT 8 Apr]
 Brutents Stresses Importance of 'Direct Talks' H 1
 [Tel Aviv DAVAR 8 Apr]
 Yeltsin, Ryuytel See Off Delegation to Baghdad H 2
 Leaders Send Treaty Anniversary Greeting to Iraq H 2
 Anniversary of Numayri's Ouster Observed in Sudan H 3
 Commentary Notes 'Lack of Reform' in Iran H 4
 [Radio Peace and Progress]
 Commentary on Cause of Tunisian Break With Iran H 5
 [Radio Peace and Progress]

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Further on Gromyko Talks With Mozambique Visitors J 1
 [PRAVDA 3 Apr]
 Supreme Soviet Delegation Stops Over in Kenya J 2
 [IZVESTIYA 4 Apr]
 Mauritian Premier A. Jugnauth Interviewed J 3
 [IZVESTIYA 21 Mar]
 Presidium Greets Mauritian Governor on Anniversary J 3
 [IZVESTIYA 3 Apr]
 3d Round of Ethiopia-Somalia Talks Under Way J 4
 Leadership Greets Ethiopia's Mengistu on Jubilee J 5
 [PRAVDA 7 Apr]

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

Voskanyan Ends Peru Visit, Arrives in Cuba [IZVESTIYA 5 Apr]	K 1
Meets Cuba's Aguirre [IZVESTIYA 6 Apr]	K 1
PRAVDA Summarizes Chebrikov's Cuba Visit [5 Apr]	K 2
Frolov Delegation Returns From Mexico [PRAVDA 4 Apr]	K 3
Moscow Contrasts Approaches to Central America [Lavrentyev]	K 3

USSR NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Presidium Debates Railroads, Prosecution Service [IZVESTIYA 28 Mar]	R 1
Railroad Ministry 'Not Meeting Demands' [IZVESTIYA 2 Apr]	R 2
Razumovskiy Report at Party Training Conference	R 5
Latvian Plenum on CPSU Decisions, Elected Officials [SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA 22 Mar]	R 6
Uzbek Central Committee Plenum Reviews Criticism [Artemenko in PRAVDA 2 Apr]	R 7
Azerbaijan Plenum Views Farm Storage, Makes Changes [BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY 22 Mar]	R 10
Azerbaijan Officials Note 'Shortcomings'	R 11
Turkmen Party Announces Personnel Changes	R 11
Georgian Paper Notes Justice Minister's Ousting [AFP]	R 12
PRAVDA UKRAINY Profiles Council Charman Gurenko [26 Mar]	R 12
Alma-Ata Reports Kolbin Tour of Ekibastuz	R 12
PRAVDA, IZVESTIYA Carry Signed Obituaries	R 13
Kemerovo Obkom Chief [PRAVDA 30 Mar]	R 13
Former Lithuanian Official [PRAVDA 20 Mar]	F 14
Soviet Film Animator [IZVESTIYA 27 Mar]	R 15
Riga Association Chief [PRAVDA 27 Mar]	R 15

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

PRAVDA Demands Swifter Restructuring of Planning [30 Mar]	S 1
Management Improvement Commission Meets [EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA Apr]	S 3

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

TASS Notes Cosmos-1834 Satellite Launch 8 Apr	U 1
Mir Crew Holds Space Center News Conference	U 1
Paris-Mir Telebridge Set for 14 April	U 2

FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU INTERVIEWS USSR'S ZAGLADIN

DW030931 Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU in German 2 Apr 87 p 8

[Interview with Vadim Zagladin, CPSU Central Committee member and deputy chief of the Central Committee International Department, by FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU Chief Editor Werner Holzer and Geneva correspondent Pierre Simonitsch; date and place not given]

[Text] [FR -- FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU] Do you think it is possible to just "sweep under the rug" the nuclear weapons production technology, which has been known for 42 years? How can it be guaranteed that no country will try to hide or secretly produce a certain number of nuclear weapons? Will a world without nuclear weapons be more secure, or will the possibility be created of making it easier to wage wars with conventional weapons, which also have a high degree of destructiveness?

[Zagladin] Of course, it is impossible to "sweep under the rug" and forget nuclear weapons production technology. However, it is very realistic to agree on the elimination of existing weapons and on the renunciation of nuclear weapons production. That was the basis upon which the Soviet Union proceeded when it suggested on 15 January 1986 the program for a phased and consistent denuclearization of the earth by the year 2000.

The question about attempts to cheat is logical. Taking the necessity of strict observance of any future agreements, as well as prevention of such attempts, into account, the Soviet proposals presuppose a logically structured verification system, ranging from use of technical means to on-site inspections, with the forms and methods of verification being improved in the process of negotiation and practical implementation of the phased elimination of nuclear weapons. The USSR for its part is ready to agree on any additional verification measures.

Would a world without nuclear weapons be more secure? There is no doubt that it would be. First, in such case the danger of mankind being annihilated in a nuclear war would be totally eliminated; it would be immortal. Second, the reduction of nuclear weapons would not be a unique move. We hope for agreements on a chemical weapons ban as well as on a radical reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments. All that would lead to a military balance recognized by both sides, and consequently to more confidence also.

In that case, too, reliable and effective verification, including on-site inspections, would be necessary. All that would rule out the possibility of anyone concentrating forces and creating the military superiority necessary for aggression.

[FR] Why have the Warsaw Pact countries not supported the Budapest appeal with specific proposals at the Vienna negotiations? Why has the West's proposal of December 1985 not been accepted in those negotiations, which envisages the withdrawal of some U.S. and Soviet troops from central Europe, but bypasses the discussion of actual numbers? Why has there not even been a counterproposal submitted? What leads the USSR to hope that the negotiations on the reduction of conventional armaments from the Atlantic to the Urals will be more successful than the negotiations in Vienna? The increase in the number of participants will make it even more difficult to achieve agreement on a solution to issues such as the numerical strength of forces and weapons deployment.

[Zagladin] The Warsaw Pact Budapest appeal talks about a significant reduction of ground forces and tactical air forces from the Atlantic to the Urals. In effect it concerns all European countries. However, the Vienna negotiations are conducted by a limited number of countries representing the Warsaw Pact and NATO, and only concern the problems of mutual arms and force reductions in central Europe. It is clear that it cannot be the forum to discuss the initiative contained in the Budapest appeal.

The proposal on the partial withdrawal of U.S. and Soviet troops and weapons was submitted by the Warsaw Pact countries in February 1985. The West's proposals mentioned in your question are actually counterproposals in response to the Warsaw Pact initiative of February 1985. They were not constructive because they envisaged smaller reductions of U.S. and Soviet troops and no weapons reductions at all. But the most important thing is that those insignificant measures were accompanied by disproportionate verification measures, envisaging counting practically every soldier.

In order to find a compromise, the Warsaw Pact countries on 20 February 1986 submitted a detailed draft "Agreement on the Initial Reduction of the Sides' Ground Forces and Weapons by the Soviet Union and the United States and Related Measures in Central Europe," which considered certain moves to meet the Western position. The NATO countries ignored that draft, and that is the state of affairs in Vienna.

The proposal by the Warsaw Pact countries of 11 June 1986 on the reduction of forces and weapons from the Atlantic to the Urals harmoniously complements the program submitted by the Soviet Union to eliminate nuclear weapons by the year 2000. We are aware that this is a complicated problem, but we think that it must be resolved. In that respect we hope that everyone will show common sense and recognize the fact that further stockpiling or even freezing armaments under the present circumstances entails danger of the most serious consequences for all of mankind.

[FR] Why is the Soviet Union agreeing to the conclusion of a separate agreement on the removal of the Pershing-2 and cruise missiles deployed in Western Europe, which threaten the USSR directly, as well as removal of the Soviet SS-20 missiles, even though in the past it insisted on linking the solution of the intermediate-range problem with U.S. renunciation of SDI?

[Zagladin] You are right. We have changed our position. However, the Soviet Union continues to assume that future security must be non-nuclear security, and would even prefer a radical solution to the problem of nuclear disarmament in the spirit of our complex approach, which envisages a package. But we are realists. An analysis of the situation showed a number of aspects that caused us to make a new move.

The U.S. delegation's attitude at the Geneva negotiations almost led to a deadlock. In view of the forthcoming elections in the United States, that situation could last. But we should not lose time because the process of the perfection of weapons is already overtaking the process of negotiations on their reduction.

In addition, we have listened to the wishes of many Western European governments, including the FRG Government, who have expressed their interest in freeing the continent from intermediate-range nuclear missiles and repeatedly stated their concern that such a process of denuclearization could be hindered because the USSR and the United States have not reached agreement on other aspects -- nuclear weapons and space-based systems.

We are also considering the interests of the Asian countries, in particular those of the PRC and Japan, who want the presence of that type of weapon on their continent to be radically reduced.

Finally, the wishes of the European and international public have been taken into account. They were formulated particularly audibly at the recent Moscow forum, For a Nuclear-Free World, for the Survival of Humanity.

[FR] Soviet scientists agree with most of their Western colleagues that the SDI plans announced by the U.S. administration cannot be implemented as they exist. Why has the USSR launched a propaganda campaign against SDI and why is it so concerned?

[Zagladin] The problem is not whether the SDI program can be implemented in some variations or another. The very purpose of the program and in particular the repeated attempts to create an antimissile shield that could guarantee conditions for an unpunished nuclear attack, could become a powerful catalytic instrument in the weapons race, and not just in space.

You do not need to have much imagination to predict with certainty that a country that considers itself a possible object of nuclear aggression would immediately try to neutralize anything possible dangerous for itself and its allies. It would develop countermeasures against space-based ABM systems and improve the means to a breakthrough [die mittel des durchbruchs vervoll-kommenen]. Obviously it would become urgently necessary to develop and improve nuclear weapons against which the antimissile shield would be impotent, such as winged missiles [fluegelraketen], low-trajectory sea-based ballistic missiles, etc.

We should also keep in mind that in the process of implementing SDI, weapons will be developed that are designed to destroy objects in space as well as on earth. Countermeasures would become necessary for that, too.

Thus implementing SDI would not allow us to deal with the reduction of existing types of weapons. On the contrary' it would stimulate the beginning of an arms race in many new directions. It is that terrible prospect of the arms race and the destabilization of the international situation that causes our very negative position on that program, and not the stories about the Russians allegedly being afraid of SDI.

We advocate detente and peace without the danger of nuclear destruction. SDI is now the main obstacle to that goal.

[FR] Is Moscow still hoping to continue the dialogue with Reagan, or is it already counting on his successor? If Moscow is really interested in achieving disarmament agreements soon, it is hard to see why it publicly represents Reagan as a politician who lacks common sense. The Soviet side charges that Reagan at first agreed to the destruction of strategic nuclear weapons and then broke his word, either under outside pressure or after having read specific files that he did not have time to study earlier.

[Zagladin] The Soviet Union, or as you say, Moscow, does not hold a dialogue with some public figure, but with the chief of state or government who was elected by the people or the parliament of the respective country. A country's domestic problems cannot have any influence on our approach. It is up to the peoples of the respective countries to assess their statemen. That is not our task.

Yes, we are ready to continue the dialogue with the present U.S. Administration. In doing so, we consider the matters discussed as well as another aspect of the problem that I mentioned in a different context -- the time factor. Nobody had heard about Star Wars 4 years ago. Now the United States is already preparing to implement the program. Who knows what may happen in another 3 or 4 years. Rejecting cooperation with the present U.S. Administration would mean nothing but a long interruption of work aimed at nuclear disarmament. We cannot afford that.

[FR] If an agreement on Afghanistan could be concluded, when would Soviet troops be withdrawn from Afghanistan? Does the USSR think that Afghanistan could become a neutral, nonaligned country whose people could be granted the right of self-determination and, based on that right, elect their own government? Does the proposal on national reconciliation submitted by the new Afghan chief of government envisage democratic pluralism, or is the rule of its Democratic People's Party considered a given?

[Zagladin] The Soviet Union wants to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan as soon as possible. In what period of time that will be possible is being discussed in the Geneva negotiations. It will be resolved, with the positions of both sides -- Afghanistan and Pakistan, whose positions are getting closer to each other -- being taken into account, and with Moscow and Kabul coordinating their approach as necessary. But I repeat, the earlier that is done, the better.

As for the second part of the question on how we would like to see the future Afghanistan, I would like to refer to the official statement made by Mikhail Gorbachev during his visit to India: "We advocate a nonaligned, sovereign, independent Afghanistan which controls and uses its resources and whatever it has. We advocate a neutral Afghanistan. It is up to the Afghan people to decide on the future form of government."

Finally, as for the domestic order that will be restored in Afghanistan after the war and the conclusion of the respective international agreements on guarantees against a possible intervention from outside, that problem will be resolved by the Afghans themselves. The concept of national reconciliation, which was submitted by the Afghan leadership, clearly envisages the organization of a coalition government with participation of forces now outside Afghanistan. I think that answers your question.

USSR'S INF OFFER ENTAILS 'A CERTAIN RISK'

PM071329 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 4 Apr 87 p 3

[Article by political observer Vladimir Katin: "Europe: Moment of Truth" under the rubric "View of Events"]

[Text] The urgency and importance of the Soviet proposal on medium range missiles is so obvious that no West European leader has openly said "no" to it. Moreover, our initiative has even been welcomed in the NATO capitals. My file contains a whole collection of statements on this score by British, French, West German, Belgian, and other political leaders in the Old World. However, the value and sincerity of any declarations is verified, as we know, by practical action. There is a rule in diplomacy: You have to understand what your opposite number is thinking when he is talking. Yes, in Western Europe seemingly all or nearly all the leaders are talking about the expediency of eliminating medium-range missiles. Yet nonetheless...

During the recent meeting and talk in the Kremlin between M.S. Gorbachev and British Prime Minister M. Thatcher this question was thoroughly discussed in detail. The Soviet leader stated quite frankly: As soon as something in the way of a positive solution begins to appear, activity in Washington, London, Paris, and Bonn is immediately aimed at seeking pretexts for slowing the process by citing Soviet "superiority." "And now," he noted, "we can see attempts being made to scuttle the talks on medium-range missiles. In separating the medium-range missile problem from the overall 'package' we were counting on British and French support. But where is that support?"

That is a substantial question. It is the moment of truth for Europe, when all countries must jointly work to finally produce progress on the problem of ridding the continent of nuclear death. This cannot be done with mere good intentions. Yet we can see how the initiative -- recognized by everyone as useful -- is accumulating a whole package of conditions and demands imposed on the Soviet Union. The NATO countries are quietly dismounting from their favorite hobby horse, the "zero option", which they themselves proposed, under which there would be no U.S. or Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe. Remember that we are talking about 380 U.S. missiles and 355 Soviet missiles to be eliminated. Now that things have reached the point where specific practical actions are being taken, it seems that the West European capitals --paradoxical as it may seem -- have gotten scared: They had to persuade and cajole their publics so much about the U.S. Pershing-2 and cruise missiles, and now they will have to part with them...

Well, the capacity for suspicion is a naturale one. Let us put the question this way: Did these U.S. Missiles add to the West European countries' security?

The pro forma excuse for NATO's 1979 decision to site around 600 U.S. medium-range missiles was the deployment of Soviet SS-20 missiles to replace the obsolete SS-4's and SS-5's. There is every justification for considering this a purely formal pretext. After all, the replacement of the Soviet missiles more than halved the total yield of their nuclear charges! So the strategic situation in Europe had not changed and there was no additional threat to West Europeans. Incidentally, B. Rogers, supreme commander, NATO Armed Forces, Europe, very frankly admitted in 1983 that the Pershing-2 and cruise missiles would have appeared on European soil even if there had been no SS-20 missiles.

There are also other well-known facts that prove that it was not actually the Soviet SS-20 missiles that were the cause of NATO's so-called "arms upgrading." It transpired that the first contracts for the development of Pershing-2 missiles were concluded back in 1969 and the first contracts for cruise missiles were concluded in the early seventies. Then in 1975, when there was not even any trace of the Soviet SS-20 missiles, the NATO leadership decided to modernize its nuclear potential. All these facts demonstrate unambiguously the true U.S. and NATO bloc intention -- to achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union.

Europe will only have really reliable security when it is cleared of nuclear explosives, and stops being figures in U.S. strategists' plans as a military theater. There is now an opportunity to create such a Europe. "The next few weeks will show," M.S. Gorbachev said at the dinner in honor of the British prime minister, "whether NATO really wants to clear a whole class of nuclear weapons from European soil, as the peoples expect. Or whether it is again seeking the best way to cover up its desire to retain and even increase the number of Pershing and cruise missiles in Europe or replace them with something newer."

It seems that this is precisely what currently concerns certain politicians in the West and the press that reflects their interests, painting pictures of a "Soviet threat," a weakened Europe, and even, you see...a defenseless Europe in the face of the Russians, and so forth. A veritable campaign is essentially already under way to sow doubt among West Europeans and to stall and delay the conclusion of an agreement.

You do not need a telescope to see the impressive arsenal of the U.S. forward-based facilities sited near Soviet borders, their sea-based forces, or the nuclear forces of Britain and France themselves, which are being built up and improved. However, in solving the problem of medium-range missiles, the Soviet Union is not touching or restricting this mountain of arms. There is, of course, a certain risk in that. But our country is taking that risk for the sake of starting the process of building a nuclear-free Europe.

In principle, it is not a question of weighing on an apothecary's scales who has what kinds of weapons. The main thing is that military parity exists in Europe as a whole. However, even if someone doubts that, there is a good way to dispel such doubts. Our country and the other Warsaw pact countries have long proposed simultaneously disbanding the military-political alliances and, figuratively speaking, laying trails of confidence and cooperation where there were bases and trenches. What is dangerous about that, and where, one wonders, is the trickery? But no, the NATO countries do not agree to this, implying that they are morally unprepared for such resolute action. Moscow, however, continues to seek and propose phased reductions in armed forces and conventional arms. A detailed program for cutting a million men from both sides will soon have been on the table of the NATO governments and NATO headquarters for almost a year. Incidentally, simultaneous reductions in nuclear arms of shorter range than medium-range missiles -- up to 1,000 km -- have also been proposed. So there is no shortage of ideas on this score. The whole problem is that there has not yet been any response from NATO. But we expect one.

While in the Soviet Union this week, the British head of government put her trust in nuclear weapons and extolled the doctrine of "nuclear deterrence." These views are shared by NATO and by the leadership of the overwhelming majority of West European countries. We in the Soviet Union reject this concept. Our logic is easy to understand: By refusing to use nuclear weapons first, the USSR will never use them against those countries which do not have any nuclear weapons on their own territory. That is our unswerving principle, reflecting new political thinking. Old thinking favoring armed force as a means of achieving political ends led to two world bloodbaths. It engendered a "cold war" and the present extremely dangerous situation and led the world to the brink of unpredictable consequences.

Our unilateral moratorium, the program for a nuclear-free world, the Reykjavik initiative, the Moscow forum "for a Nuclear-Free World for the Survival of Humanity," and now the proposal to resolve the question of medium-range missiles in Europe are manifestations of new thinking. An agreement would be not only of great military-political importance but would also change the situation psychologically. After all, hitherto everyone has only been amassing arms, building bases and hideouts, siting missiles, and stoking fear. However, Europe's genuine security should be ensured not by bases, missiles, or retaliatory measures, but by radical reductions in nuclear arms and their complete destruction. Hope for such a nuclear-free Europe was opened up this spring by the Soviet idea of eliminating medium-range missiles. The main thing now is to promote this process and allow it to conclude triumphantly to the benefit of all Europe and all mankind.

UPGRADE OF GREENLAND RADAR VIOLATES ABM TREATY

PM071247 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Apr 87 First Edition p 5

[Article by Major General Yu. Lebedev under rubric "Readers Request Information": "Radar Station in Greenland and Washington's Subterfuge" -- first two paragraphs are reader's letter]

[Text] "Newspapers make fairly frequent reference to the American radar station in Greenland. It has also been featured in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. Nevertheless, I still do not understand why the creation of this radar station is at variance with the ABM Treaty. More information please."

Reserve Colonel M. Savin, Leningrad.

For several years the United States has been building a new multifunction radar station for a ballistic missile early warning system (BMEWS) at its military base in Greenland. This radar station is being constructed next to existing BMEWS radar stations built there before the 1972 Soviet-American ABM Treaty was signed. This treaty permits the United States to retain these earlier BMEWS radar stations and keep them, including those on foreign territory, in their original positions. But strict limitations were imposed on the creation of new BMEWS radar stations after 1972: This kind of radar station may be sited only on the periphery of one's national territory; the placing of BMEWS radar stations on foreign territory is prohibited by Article 6 of the ABM Treaty. Even the most cunning treaty "interpreters" in the White House and the Pentagon cannot claim that Greenland is U.S. national territory. We will also note that, not limiting itself to Greenland, the United States has begun building a similar radar station in Britain.

It is therefore clear that building new U.S. radar stations in Greenland and Britain is not in accordance with the ABM Treaty.

The United States cannot be unaware of the unlawfulness of its actions. In an attempt to justify itself in the eyes of the world public opinion, the American administration is trying to "legitimize" the building of the new radar station in Greenland and pass off the work in progress as "modernization" of its old BMEWS stations.

What can be said in this connection? It is absurd to talk of any "modernization" when, figuratively speaking, a nuclear power plant is built in the place of a firewood stove. But this is exactly what is happening in Greenland, where the new radar station bears no resemblance to the previous one in terms of either equipment or potential. All the key components of the new radar station are new creations: an antenna system based on a different (from the previous antenna system) principle of operation -- a "phased array" -- which gives the station a substantially more powerful performance and new potential (the new antenna is a six-tiered construction reaching a height of approximately 28 meters); a new "brain" for the station -- a rapid-response computer complex with a new generation of computers; and a modern control center appropriate to the station's new technical level and potential.

These are the facts. They are irrefutable evidence that the United States has no grounds for talking about modernization, because it is deploying a new phased-array radar station in breach of the ABM Treaty.

The 1972 ABM Treaty makes strict provisions regarding the permitted locations for siting large phased-array radar stations, basing these provisions on the intended purpose of these radar stations. Radar stations of this kind can only be built in ABM system deployment areas or at ABM test sites (in the capacity of ABM radar stations), on the periphery of the national territory of the country in question (in the capacity of BMEWS radar stations) -- outward looking and for the purpose of tracking objects in space or for use as national technical verification equipment. The new BMEWS phased-array radar station being built by the United States in Greenland does not correspond to any of the deployment regions or intended purposes permitted by the ABM Treaty.

So why is the United States proceeding with actions that are flagrantly in breach of its treaty obligations? We will consider the station's potential in order to answer this question.

The commissioning of the new radar station in Greenland will make it possible to have radar coverage of a considerably larger sector of the Arctic than was feasible with the old stations, increase the time available for tracking objects appearing from the north, and considerably enhance the potential for tracking a number of objects simultaneously. The technical specifications of the new station exceed BMEWS requirements: The information provided by the radar station will make it possible to assess the scale of an enemy nuclear missile attack and determine the location and expected warhead impact coordinates with an accuracy sufficient for targeting ABM missile complexes. Locating this radar station outside U.S. territory ensures advance detection of targets in the time needed for the early allocation of targets and for ensuring that they are intercepted in the furthest reaches of the ABM complex strike zones. It is with the aim of gaining these military advantages that the United States has built the new radar station in Greenland, ignoring the ABM Treaty requirements in this respect. It is becoming clear why Washington has needed to deceive public opinion, because Washington knows best of all how matters really stand. It is important to point out in this connection that the idea of "modernizing" the radar station in Greenland was repeatedly turned down by previous American administrations on the grounds that it ran counter to the ABM Treaty.

The unlawful U.S. establishment of a BMEWS radar station outside its national territory erodes the principles of the ABM Treaty. Yet that treaty is the foundation on which future Soviet-U.S. accords in the sphere of limiting, reducing, and ultimately totally eliminating strategic offensive weapons can be built. Attempts to weaken this treaty, and especially attempts to derail it, can only lead to a new, uncontrollable twist in the arms race spiral, notably in space.

This is what certain U.S. circles are aiming at, incidentally. The present Washington administration is following their lead. It has already refused to abide by the SALT-I interim agreement and the SALT-II treaty. And now, as we can see, it is the turn of the ABM Treaty.

I must also draw attention to another point of considerable importance. Those countries which indulge the United States and do not oppose the construction of new American BMEWS radar stations on their territory become, willy-nilly, accessories to the process of undermining international treaties.

This development of events cannot fail to cause concern in everyone who cherishes the cause of peace. Discussions among the Danish public (Greenland is part of Denmark) regarding the American BMEWS radar station in Greenland show no signs of abating, for example. The problem has even been a matter of debate in the Danish Folketing (parliament). A resolution passed by the Folketing instructs the government to do everything possible to ensure that the aforementioned radar station is not used for offensive purposes and is not brought into operation as part of preparations for "Star Wars." [paragraph continues]

The Danish Government, the resolution states, must urge the United States and the USSR to continue to adhere to a strict interpretation of the ABM Treaty. This demand is really intended for the United States, because our country is already in favor of unconditional fulfillment of this treaty.

So, Comrade Savin, this is how matters really stand with the new American radar station in Greenland. The danger lies not only and not so much in the station itself as in the U.S. departure from the ABM Treaty. That is why the Soviet Union cannot fail to react to the U.S. actions and to its attempts to derail the ABM Treaty. The USSR has repeatedly warned the United States that undermining this treaty, including the section concerning the problems of building BMEWS radar stations, could have serious consequences.

Our country is in favor of reinforcing the ABM Treaty system and ensuring that the countries concerned refrain for as long as possible from exercising their right to withdraw from the treaty and do not undertake any action in breach of the restrictions laid down by the treaty.

PROBLEM OF ARMS REDUCTION IN EUROPE VIEWED

LD071430 Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] Representatives of the Warsaw Treaty and NATO countries have held unofficial consultations in Vienna on the problem of reducing the armed forces and conventional arms in Europe. The meetings will now resume in May. Here is what Radio Moscow commentator Aleksandr Pogodin writes:

The problem of armed forces and conventional arms in Europe seems to have acquired a rather strange character. For many years NATO has been saying that the Warsaw Treaty countries have a superiority in the field. But even if that was so, the more reason there would be for talks between the two blocks to lower the level of military confrontation between them on the basis of equal security. And that was what the Warsaw Treaty countries had been repeatedly suggesting but had failed to find any response. That includes last year's proposal on a substantial reduction of the armed forces and conventional arms on a territory from the Atlantic to the Urals.

Today, when there is a sufficiently real prospect of eliminating Soviet and American medium-range missiles in Europe, the problem has become even more acute. The West claims that the elimination of the Euromissiles would leave NATO absolutely defenseless before a so-called Soviet tank threat. And of course nothing is said about the fact that NATO has the superiority in bombers, antitank defense weapons, and certain other arms. Nor is it mentioned that the superiority of the sides in one or another field actually evens them out as military specialists believe. In other words there is a parity in the field of conventional arms between the Warsaw Treaty and the NATO countries. The Warsaw Treaty countries believe that when there is an inequality in some elements of conventional arms, it is necessary to even out the situation through corresponding reductions. The stage by stage reduction of military confrontation in Europe should be constantly based on an ever lower balance between the sides. Are the NATO countries prepared to follow that only realistic way? After the first series of consultations they expressed cautious optimism. Well, we'll now have to see what the new meetings in Vienna will bring.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS'

LD032219 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 3 Apr 87

["International Situation -- Questions and Answers" program presented by foreign affairs commentator Vyacheslav Lavrentyev, with political observer Nikolay Shishlin; commentator Nikolay Agayants; "our colleague" Vladimir Fadeyev; commentator Igor Surguchev; and Paris correspondent Oleg Maksimenko]

[Excerpts] [Lavrentyev] Hello, comrades! As usual, we have compiled our program from replies to your letters. Lately we have started to get more of them, and many of them contain not abstract questions, such as "tell us about Greenland," but there is interest in international problems concerning our country and the Soviet Union's foreign policy. [passage omitted] Naturally, many are concerned about the way the process of curbing the arms race and the reduction and elimination of nuclear weapons are going -- that is, problems which our government has placed at the focus of its foreign policy. In this regard, many of our listeners are worried about the fact that fresh complications have arisen at the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva on medium-range missiles in Europe, hampering the attainment of accord. Why has this happened? Who is to blame? Erik Mikhaylovich Shulvovskiy from Noginsk asks in particular. Political observer Nikolay Shishlin will reply to this and a number of other questions. Go ahead, Nikolay Vladimirovich.

[Shishlin] First of all, there is the essence of the Soviet position, as set forth in the well-known statement of 28 February 1987. First, the Soviet Union is prepared to seek a solution to the question of eliminating medium-range missiles in Europe and drastically limiting this class of weaponry in the Asiatic part of our territory and on the territory of the United States, independent of the scope of other problems concerning the curtailment of strategic weapons and other classes of weapons. That is, the Reykjavik package has been untied, something about which much has been said in the West -- in the United States and in the West European countries. That is the first thing.

Second, on the basis of this Soviet position, we certainly can speak of substantial progress at the Geneva talks. The Geneva talks really are a serious forum where serious work is in progress to draft the appropriate agreement. But one must not underestimate the difficulties, both subjective and objective, in what concerns the search for a compromise solution. The subjective difficulties consist in the fact that, as is revealed by the first reactions to the Soviet position, be they in the United States or in the West European countries, our interlocutors have as always an endless fund of reservations in order to try to haggle for as much as possible in things where there should be no question of any trading, where the discussion should be about finding a sensible balance of interests that would rest firmly on a foundation of sufficient security, equal security for both sides.

What reservations are we talking about? Well, first of all, they declare that since an accord is to be attained on eliminating medium-range missiles, then we must at the same time come to agreement on issues of operational and tactical missiles. But here, this detail must be taken into account: It has been stated by the Soviet Union that as far as the operational and tactical missiles stationed by us in response to the stationing of Pershing-2 and cruise missiles in Western Europe are concerned -- the missiles stationed by our country by agreement with the Czechoslovak side and the GDR -- these missiles will be removed from the territory of Czechoslovakia and the GDR as soon as an accord is reached in Geneva. But in what is called Europe, the European Continent, the one side and the other have operational and tactical missiles of lesser range.

Here the Soviet Union says firmly and definitely that we are prepared, as soon as a solution on medium-range missiles is found, to embark immediately upon talks with the aim of coming to agreement on both reduction and elimination of this class of missiles, too.

Further, there is also this theme in the Western reservations, that if Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe are eliminated, then what about conventional weapons, since the West firmly insists that there is a imbalance in favor of the Warsaw Pact countries in conventional weapons. In Vienna, what might be called preliminary discussions are in progress -- I would not even call them talks -- to try to find a framework for talks on evening out the armed forces and weapons of both the Warsaw Pact and NATO. The Soviet principle is this: Where there is imbalance, balance should be approached by way of reduction of the level of the weapons concerned. Thus, in essence, the political position is absolutely clear, sincere, and well-considered on the Soviet Union's side. Thus, I think that the West is quite simply exceedingly slowly approaching the adoption of a stand of responsibility, a stand of trust, and embarking quickly on energetic work to draft an appropriate agreement.

That is what I have called the subjective hindrances. But of course there are the objective ones, and we must take account of this, because in itself such a treaty, such as agreement on elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe will, of course, require fairly intensive work. Meanwhile, the Soviet Union is prepared for the fullest verification [kontrol], one might say three-way verification, since it is a question of verification of practical steps aimed at curtailing the arms race.

[Lavrentyev] Nikolay Vladimirovich, the question is often asked: Why, given the profound similarity of the present Soviet position with the well-known U.S. zero option, does the United States not applaud the Soviet stand and why is there speculation about whether it will be possible at all to conclude this agreement in 1987?

[Shishlin] I think this reflects the real political picture both in the United States and in Western Europe, because the U.S. missiles in Europe and the U.S. Armed Forces in Europe did not, of course, appear by accident. In this case, the installation of the U.S. missiles was of course a factor for pressure on the Soviet stand, a factor for provoking the Soviet Union to further involvement in an arms race, which is for us, of course, extremely undesirable, considering the major constructive plans, which at present are being implemented in our country, our tasks in accelerating the socioeconomic development of the Soviet Union, and our tasks in the radical, revolutionary restructuring taking place in the framework of Soviet society.

But having spoken about all these reservations, all the same I would like to say that, in practice, things are progressing. I think that the Soviet Union's bold step is already today showing the measure of its profound influence on European public opinion and on European political circles. I think the comrades will have noticed that although the talks that took place between the CPSU general secretary and the British prime minister were not simple but complex talks and there was a big difference in their positions, on the issue of so-called Euromissiles, on the issue of eliminating medium-range Soviet and U.S. missiles on the territory of Europe, the closeness of their positions was evident, and there was, of course, a similarity of approach. So I think that our assertive, dynamic, flexible and well-considered position is working, and this creates quite good prospects for 1987 to be marked by the first major, real, practical agreement not on limitation of the level of arms, but on elimination of a whole class of weapons.

[Lavrentyev] Here is a letter which our offices have just received from very Georgiyevna Kozlova from Chelyabinsk. She is interested in the results of the official visit to our country by Margaret Thatcher, prime minister of great Britain. Over to you, Nikolay Vladimirovich.

[Shishlin] Of course, the visit was very interesting, and there is still thought to be given to its results. It would be difficult from the fresh impressions of the talks that took place in Moscow to formulate so soon, accurately, and in an absolutely considered way what is sometimes called the final balance of the visit, that is, the practical results. When talks are held at such a high level, I in general do not think that the results necessarily have to be materialized in some or other details. Of itself, the rapprochement of the positions between Great Britain and the Soviet Union in the approach to certain major political issues is already of benefit not just to our and European politics, but to world politics as a whole. That is the first thing.

Second, I think that the visit itself, even though we know that Britain's Prime Minister Thatcher is at the moment interested in accumulating political capital, taking the forthcoming general election in Britain into account, and at the same time the stand adopted by the British prime minister and her visit to the Soviet Union, the first after a 12-year gap in meetings at such a level between our country and Great Britain, goes to show that nobody now would be right to ignore the need for dialogue between countries belonging to different social systems on the European Continent.

What is important here is that the European countries including Great Britain, are starting to speak with their own independent voice. In my view, this independent voice is what is most in keeping with Great Britain's weight in European and world politics, although I shall not conceal the fact that, of course, the British Conservative Government has a very similar view on many things to the opinions expressed in Washington. But one way or the other, the fact of the dialogue, the desire to understand each other, and the intensified exposition of their positions -- this is something useful to the highest degree, because what is absolutely necessary in the process of drafting policy is a knowledge of the point of view of the party with whom you wish to come to agreement. In this sense, Margaret Thatcher's visit to the Soviet Union has made it possible for the Soviet leadership to get a better idea of the British position, to understand the arguments of Great Britain, without necessarily sharing them, and, of course, this creates a sort of prepared ground on which those plants which are adapted to this ground can be cultivated.

In particular, as far as bilateral Soviet-British agreements are concerned, then of course nobody expected that the Soviet Union and Great Britain would create some integrated plan, some integrated program for development of this or that sector of the economy, but it seems to me that Great Britain's obvious interest in developing business ties with the Soviet Union gains fresh impetus as a result of the political discussions concluded during the British Prime Minister's visit to the Soviet Union, including those concerning cultural cooperation. This sphere is not one just of enjoyment, a sphere of pure emotion, a sphere of emotional joy; it is a sphere in which there takes place a familiarization between the cultures of peoples, a familiarization with the psychologies of peoples, a familiarization between different societies, which is also a necessary prerequisite for mutual understanding and for any joint actions. In our troubled and restless world, joint actions -- which have to replace confrontation -- must displace mistrust, suspicion, and alienation from European and international relations. [passage omitted]

[Lavrentyev] I shall continue our program today with these three letters: Mariya Baranova, a student at the Leningrad "Herzen" Teacher Training State Institute, asks us: Why don't they just close the frontier between Afghanistan and Pakistan? That is her first question.

The second goes like this: Why is it that our country, having decided to help the April Revolution, cannot bring things to a conclusion, that is, destroy all the dushmans? Comrade Kozhevnikov, who unfortunately did not give his first names, a veteran of the Great Patriotic War from the village of (Konobeyevka) in Veshkaymskiy Rayon, Ulyanovsk Oblast, supposes that an end must be put to the dushmans once and for all, so as not to inflict unnecessary losses, as he puts it.

The last letter is from Comrade Reznichenko, a listener from Novomoskovsk in Dnepropetrovsk Oblast. He asks us to comment on the current events in Afghanistan and notes in particular that the Western propaganda compares the help from the United States and Pakistan for the dushmans with the help given by our country to the legitimate government of Afghanistan. But how, asks Comrade Reznichenko, can one compare such different things? We, he continues, who are giving help to a whole people, who have the same aims and tasks as their government, while the other side is supporting counterrevolution represented by people who have run away from the revolution in their country, and amongst whom there are, as is well-known, plenty of real bandits. I think, he says in conclusion, that but for this aid and support, the fratricidal war in Afghanistan would long since have been over.

Such is the content of the three letters which concern the Afghanistan problem in one way or another. I ask my colleague Vladimir Fadeyev to reply to them.

[Fadeyev] I'll start with the letter from Mariya Barabanova. I must admit that before my stay in Afghanistan I also often wondered why it was not possible just to close the Afghan-Pakistani border. We Soviet people, accustomed in thinking of our border being reliably under lock and key, find it difficult to get used to the idea that it is difficult to put it under reliable lock and key in another state, in this case, our neighbor to whom we are also giving military aid. Nevertheless, there is a whole range of circumstances and factors that for the time being make it impossible to do this. So, what are they?

The first is that the border between Afghanistan and Pakistan is extremely difficult terrain and extends for more than 2,000 km. By difficult terrain, you should understand, in particular, two virtually lifeless deserts and mountains up to 6,000 meters high. Of course, there are caravan trails and footpaths in these areas, but in winter these too are covered by snow several meters deep. Even if you imagine that it is possible to send troops to these areas, then right away there is the problem of supporting and supplying them. There are no roads there, and of course the dushmans at the moment do not make use of the several major passes suitable for wheeled vehicles to penetrate into Afghanistan from Pakistan; they would simply be arrested there.

And another circumstance -- the border troops in Afghanistan are still very young and few in number. They have to rely on the help of volunteer border defenders from among the local tribes, little boys. The dushmans usually cross the frontier in small groups. This is a specially chosen tactic which makes it possible for them -- although not always successfully, but, all the same, fairly secretly and in a dispersed manner -- to infiltrate into the territory of Afghanistan, and go back, of course.

Of course it would not be correct to think the revolutionary government is not taking steps to seal the border more tightly. Particularly in the last 2 years various defensive measures have been adopted, and work is in progress with frontier tribes to attract them to the side of the people's authorities. As you have already heard, many tribes have expressed their resolve not to allow the dushmans through their territory, and not even to allow them to make a stop on their land. As is known, armed clashes even occur for this reason between the tribes and the dushmans. But is it possible to stop nomads who migrate with their herds across the frontier in search of fodder for their animals? I really can't imagine how that could be done today.

What is more, these are Pashtuns numbering something over 3 million who have lived for centuries, I stress, centuries, on both sides of the frontier, maintaining economic, cultural and household ties with each other. They have never been citizens of any one state, and do not recognize any frontier or customs laws. According to age-old traditions, they always have their weapons with them, while they carry no personal identification papers. Such is the situation with these border tribes, and neither Afghanistan nor Pakistan would risk upsetting it today. True, this situation also is exploited by the dushmans. By paying money, they sometimes infiltrate into Afghanistan in the guise of nomads or traders and perpetrate their far from peaceful deeds there.

There is another factor that sometimes plays into the hands of the counterrevolution. This is that the existing line marking the frontier between Afghanistan and Pakistan, strange as it may seem, does not have the status of a frontier, since it is not recognized by the DRA Government. The sources of this problem are to be found in the distant past, in the so-called Durand Line imposed as an unfair border of Afghanistan by Britain in 1893. The local tribes do not recognize the Durand Line as a frontier. It is also the source of constant tension between the two states, since, as I repeat, it divides the lands of the Pashtuns and Baluchis into two parts, something they absolutely refuse to accept.

So, Mariya, as you can see, the matter is not as simple as it might seem from afar, and all these complexities just help the counterrevolution to survive, or putting it plainly, they help the infiltration of dushman formations into Afghan lands.

That is also one answer to Comrade Kozhevnikov's question from Ulyanovsk Oblast about why it is not possible to put an end to the dushmans all at once. I would note that the case of the piratical attack by Pakistani fighters on a civilian Afghan aircraft is also being passed off barefacedly and speculatively by Islamabad as supposedly an instance of violation of Pakistani airspace by the passenger aircraft. But the details of this incident and an evaluation of it are given fully in our press, and I will not dwell on it. I will just note that in itself this instance is eloquent evidence of what the situation is at present in Afghanistan. The situation also becomes evident if one takes into account that for more than 10 weeks the people's government has been observing the ceasefire, while the process of national reconciliation -- which the United States is trying so hard to undermine -- involving Pakistan and giving it the relevant commands, continues.

Islamabad today is acting and following in the wake of U.S. foreign policy in the region; and I will add that neither national reconciliation in Afghanistan nor the Geneva talks, as a result of which there might come a political settlement to the situation around Afghanistan, are in Washington's strategic interest in any way. Nor does the White House conceal the fact that it would like to involve us in the Afghan problem as deeply as possible. In other words, Washington says that it advocates the immediate withdrawal of the remaining part of our troops in Afghanistan, but in fact they rub their hands with glee at the thought that our people, in aiding fraternal Afghanistan and its government at a difficult time, suffers losses in people and morale.. [passage omitted]

U.S., ISRAELI STAND ON 'REFUSENIKS' BERATED

PM021538 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 3 Apr 87 First Edition p 5

[B. Antonov article: "Breaking and Entering Bearing Gifts: A Large-Scale CIA Spy Operation Behind the Screen of 'Humanitarian Considerations'"]

[Text] It has become the rule for Western leaders -- in power and in opposition -- to weigh down political and business contacts with the Soviet Union with a Zionist "burden" -- in the form of a list of persons who have been refused permission to leave for Israel for reasons laid down by Soviet law. The petitioners can be of the highest rank. What is the secret of such high-ranking patronage and such large stakes?

Analysis shows that the departure of 250,000 persons of Jewish nationality from the USSR for the West in the last 20 years is far from being a spontaneous process of "reuniting families." It is rather a question of a broad demographic operation, what I would call the transplantation of a fairly substantial number of inhabitants of the USSR to a different political system.

From the economic viewpoint, this operation requires huge capital investments. The Zionists have sent 680,000 invitations to the Soviet Union. Thus the envelopes and stamps alone cost nearly a million dollars. But Soviet people are not simply sent postal envelopes containing invitations. They are literally lured with material assets. A whole series of firms (such as (MELA), (Dinnerman) and Co. and others) send free parcels to numerous addressees containing goods worth about \$1,000 each to assure people that free blessings and a life of paradise await them abroad.

Several radio stations engage in agitation and call on people to leave. Tens of thousands of videocassettes of advertising films about Israel and the Western way of life are sent. What about the advertising books, pamphlets, and prospectuses, which also are brought into the Soviet Union by Zionist envoys for wide distribution? They come, as a rule, as tourists, receiving "allowances" and "bonuses" for every mission fulfilled. Some bring with them large sums of currency for bribery.

Who pays for all this? The answer is obvious: Those who stand to gain by it. Some light was shed on the essence of the question, in particular, by George Keagan, a former general in U.S. military intelligence. In an interview for THE JERUSALEM POST newspaper, he let slip that for every dollar invested in this operation, the U.S. receives from the emigres a thousand dollars' worth of information about Soviet military and other secrets. These are obtained by the very same "refuseniks" ["otkazniki"] about whom the West makes a propaganda fuss. The special services carry out innumerable interrogations and cross-examinations of these people and use other methods. The art of sifting information and compiling a whole picture from the fragments has even been given a name -- the "mosaic method." Using this method, nobody risks ending up behind bars, as once happened with the "refusenik" Shcharanskiy, who, while living in Moscow, set about working for the CIA.

That is why Zionists in the West organize such zealous pressure to get hold of those who have been refused permission to leave because of their knowledge of USSR state and military secrets. Political and public figures are dragged in to participate in this measure, which pursues purely espionage interests. These are the mechanics: Every "refusenik" wishing to take part in kindling a provocation telephones Tel Aviv from Moscow, the subscribers report this to the spy service, and it instantly organizes "support actions." The names of persons who must be "saved" are read out on the Voice of Israel radio.

Through a network of Zionist organizations, dramatic reports on the "martyrs of Zion" find their way into the Western newspapers and television programs. The broad public sometimes does not so much as suspect that it is being fooled, that in reality it is a question of people who are eagerly awaited by the collectors of secrets at Langley -- CIA headquarters.

Numerous Western "controllers" use the cover of the Helsinki third basket, "humanitarian considerations," and demand that no obstacles be placed in the path of their unseemly actions. Otherwise, they assert, the Soviet Union is violating the Helsinki accords. In fact it strictly complies with them. If there is no reason for refusal on the grounds of knowledge of state secrets or certain other grounds provided for by law, the procedure for registering for permission to leave has been made considerably easier. Under the new rules, if it is a question of permanent residence abroad, petitions are examined within a month. That is much quicker than is stipulated in the concluding document of the Madrid meeting (6 months), or than was proposed in Bern last spring at the conference of representatives of the countries party to the Helsinki accords. Those who are refused permission are without fail told the grounds for the refusal (Western countries' laws do not always require this). On a reexamination of a petition formerly refused, the documents submitted earlier are taken into account -- to simplify the procedure.

If we are talking about who complies with the Helsinki accords and how, one cannot fail to draw attention to the arbitrary practice of issuing visas in the United States. There laws adopted at the time of McCarthyism are still in force. Under these laws the issuing of a passport or an entry permit depends on a person's political convictions.

One need only recall the "case" of Margaret Randall, the progressive American writer and poet. This is a graphic example of the use of immigration legislation against "dissidents," in particular, personalities in the world of culture, whose political convictions differ from the administration's anticommunist ideology.

Thus the question of "refuseniks" in the USSR is a mote in someone else's eye, pointed out by one who fails to see the beam in his own eye.

NATO SAID TO 'DELIBERATELY INFLATE' PACT STRENGTH

PM021529 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Apr 87 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Deliberate Distortions"]

[Text] London, 31 Mar -- NATO experts deliberately inflate figures on the quantity of conventional arms and the numerical strength of the USSR Armed Forces and those of other Warsaw Pact countries. This is the conclusion drawn by the authors of a report on the correlation of Warsaw Pact and NATO forces, released here by Bradford University.

"Differences in the numerical strength of the two military-political groupings' armed forces are insignificant, and there can be no question of any massive Warsaw Pact superiority," Lutz Unterseer, a West German expert on military questions, emphasizes in the report entitled "Conventional Ground Forces in Central Europe -- An assessment of the Threat."

The report "The Myth of Soviet Military Superiority," prepared by British researcher Andrew Kelly, points out in particular that when counting the strength of Warsaw Pact and NATO states' armed forces, NATO experts often "overlook" the armed forces of states like France and Spain.

At the same time, the very same report cites data according to which it is NATO countries that enjoy substantial advantages in terms of a whole range of arms, such as aerial bombs. Commenting on his report, A. Kelly told REUTER: "We conducted this research because the imbalance in the correlation of conventional arms is used as a basis for the nuclear policy being elaborated by the West. We believe that the assessment of the threat (from the East -- TASS note) is exaggerated. Hence the West could move toward the creation of a defense geared to a lesser extent to nuclear arms."

ROGACHEV INTERVIEWED ON POLICY IN ASIA, PACIFIC

PM031014 Paris LE MONDE in French 3 Apr 87 p 3

[Interview with Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev by Alain Jacob in Paris -- date not given]

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev has special responsibility for the Asia and Pacific region. He ended a visit to Paris on 31 March in which he had consultations at the Quai d'Orsay which were devoted mainly to the prospects opened up by the speech delivered by CPSU General Secretary Gorbachev in Vladivostok on 28 July. He also informed his hosts about the impressions he received during his recent tour of six South Pacific and Southeast Asian countries with Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze. He granted us an interview before he returned to Moscow.

At the bilateral level, Mr Rogachev noted that there are naturally "disagreements" between the French and Soviets if only on the treaty relating to a nuclear-free zone in the South Pacific (which the USSR and China support, but not France) or on New Caledonia, on which Moscow abides by the UN General Assembly resolutions. However, the Soviet deputy foreign minister does not seem to regard these "disagreements" as very worrying. "I said," he stressed, "that the USSR's policy for developing its relations with the small South Pacific countries was not intended to harm third countries.... It was explained to me that France has had a presence in the Pacific for 200 years and that it has interests there. We hope it will have a presence there for another 200 years and we respect its interests. But we are also asking France to respect the principles on which our policy is based." The USSR now clearly wants to have a much more active role in this part of the world.

Since the Vladivostok speech, Mr Rogachev explained, this policy is intended to be developed "in three directions."

-- "Not increasing and not allowing the proliferation of nuclear arms" in the region, the U.S., Soviet, and Chinese nuclear arms being taken into account as "currently operational," which would not be the case with the Indian bomb;

-- "Reducing the activities of the fleets," both American and Soviet, in the Pacific and Indian Ocean;

-- "Finally, the reduction of conventional forces" in the region in which the Soviet deputy minister thinks there are now 17 million men in the armed forces of various countries.

It goes without saying that nothing can be done in these areas without the United States, which at present not only at sea but in Japan and South Korea.

"Nobody Can Tell Vietnam What To Do" [subhead]

What about China? Mr Rogachev is an expert on that country -- whose language he speaks -- and has twice been posted to Beijing, which he now visits several times a year. This is one of the signs of what he regards as a very marked "improvement in the climate" of relations between the two countries. The 10th series of Sino-Soviet political consultations will start on 11 April. In May, Chinese Vice Premier Li Peng is expected in Moscow for the meeting of the Economic, Scientific, and Cultural Cooperation Commission. Exchanges of visits at higher levels "are in the air." But "preconditions" must first be met.

This applies in particular to the "very delicate" Cambodian question on which Mr Rogachev spoke with a worried air. "In his Vladivostok speech," he said, "General Secretary Gorbachev advocated direct dialogue between Hanoi and Beijing. Vietnam has made proposals in this regard several times. Unfortunately, our Chinese comrades are not showing any desire to start such talks. We are told that the key to the problem is in the USSR's hands... We do not have this key.... Vietnam is our friend, but it is an independent and sovereign country, it is a very proud nation and nobody can take the role of mentor to it or tell it what to do."

However, the Soviet deputy minister said he was "optimistic." Is this a reference to the political changes which have taken place in Hanoi and Beijing in recent months? He noted that there is "a general trend in Asia: Those who are favorable to dialogue are coming to the fore. Nobody spoke (during the tour he made with Mr Shevardnadze, including the three Indochinese countries) of solving the Cambodian problem by military means or confrontation. But we must take account of the political situations which have been created in Indochina. Hopes for a settlement could not be based on Vietnamese concessions alone."

COLLECTION OF GORBACHEV SPEECHES PUBLISHED IN U.S.

LD072219 Moscow TASS in English 2157 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] Washington April 7 TASS -- "We have no evil or secret designs against your country. We are not hostile to the American people", Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), writes in a foreword to the third collection of his speeches and articles.

In the foreword which has been specially written for the collection which has been published in the United States, Mikhail Gorbachev analyses in detail the present-day international situation, Soviet-U.S. relations, and the processes taking place in the Soviet Union.

"The fostering of a new way of thinking is, in my opinion, instrumental in bringing about a radical turn in the life of the world community", he writes. "Revolutions always begin in the mind."

"The way to save civilisation and life itself does not lie in thinking up new technologies for ever more accurate and lethal weapons systems, but rather in liberating the mind from prejudices -- political and social, national and racial -- from arrogance, self-conceit and the cult of force and violence".

"We in our country are changing and altering our mode of political thought and are adopting to the present realities, the realities of the nuclear age, the space age, and the computer age. We are waiting for this from everyone else, from you, the American people."

The collection entitled "Towards the Better World" comprises, in particular, Mikhail Gorbachev's press conference in Reykjavik on October 12, 1986, his speeches on Soviet television on October 14 and 22, the Political Report of the CPSU Central Committee to the 27th Congress of the CPSU, the televised speech on March 29, 1986, in connection with the continuation of nuclear tests by the United States in defiance of the Soviet moratorium on all nuclear explosions, the speech before the automotive workers in the city of Togliati on April 8, 1986, and the interview given to U.S. journalist Joseph Kingsbury-Smith in December 1986.

A spokesman for the "Richardson and Steirman" publishing firm which has put out the collection has emphasized that the firm was guided by a desire to give the Americans, who show growing interest in the Soviet Union, an ample opportunity to get acquainted with the policy of the USSR.

'SPY MANIA' OVER MOSCOW EMBASSY CONTINUES

OW071339 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0955 GMT 7 Apr 87

[From "The World Today" program, presented by Vitaliy Ilyashenko]

[Text] American propaganda continues fanning their spy mania incense burner. The occasion for this was U.S. decision to recall home 28 Marines who were on guard duties at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow.

They were supposedly seduced into spying for the USSR by former Soviet employees of the embassy. Three of the Marines have already been arrested and are presently under investigation by a military tribunal.

At the same time, U.S. television companies and radios continue to harp on the issue of construction of the new building of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. Washington insists that nearly every brick in the building has a listening device planted within. The Americans intend to reconstruct the new building themselves, while two congressmen, who recently visited the construction site, declared that the USSR should supposedly reimburse the United States for the cost of the reconstruction. Can you beat that? No more, no less.

The Voice of America radio station reported Reagan's declaration that the new building of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow will not be used until the problem of the Soviet listening devices is solved.

All this would be funny, if it was not so sad. The current bout of spy mania and anti-Sovietism is fanned by those who are interested in slandering the Soviet Union and complicating USSR-U.S. relations.

ASIA-PACIFIC MILITARY COMMAND STRUCTURE TO CHANGE

PM080837 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 1

[S. Agafonov Tokyo dispatch under the rubric "Reports From Abroad": "Ground Forces Staff Created"]

[Text] This item in the Japanese newspaper MAINICHI caused no great sensation and was lost in the general flood of information reports. Yet the facts cited in it are highly noteworthy and deserve attention.

The article discusses the fact that changes are planned in the U.S. military structure in the Asian and Pacific region: To increase centralization and enhance the efficiency of command, a joint staff of ground forces is to be set up which will have authority over the U.S. contingents stationed in Japan, South Korea, and the Philippines and also in other parts of the region which, until now, (unlike the Air Force and the Navy) have had no unified organizational basis. Now, however, each of the three categories of troops will have their own regional command center.

MAINICHI observes this structural reorganization primarily has the aim of intensifying the U.S. military presence in the Pacific region, as it will soon be followed by a buildup in the number of the Pentagon's ground forces. The newspaper cites an anonymous source in the Japanese National Defense Agency, who is of the opinion that the creation of a ground forces staff is a natural step in the process to strengthen the U.S. "forward-based deployment" potential spearheaded against the USSR. MAINICHI recalls similar changes have already been made in the Air Force and the Navy, which have resulted in a greater number of ships and aircraft permanently stationed in the region.

The Pentagon decision has another side to it, not mentioned by the newspaper: The strengthening of the command link is evidence that the United States is preparing for military actions throughout the Asian and Pacific region, and this primarily means those countries where "GIs" are now stationed will find themselves drawn into any U.S. adventure right from the beginning.

POGODIN ON 'MARCH' ARMS SHIPMENT TO IRAN

LD061536 Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 6 Apr 87

[Text] According to the American NBC television network, the United States shipped, in early March, another consignment of arms to Iran. Here's commentary by Aleksandr Pogodin. This is what he writes.

I'd like to draw attention to the time indicated in the report, early March. It was then that President Reagan made a special statement about Irangate where he admitted the fact of unlawful arms supplies to Iran and the use of the proceeds for financing the Nicaraguan contras' subversive activities. After gracefully admitting his mistakes, which he claims to have been well-intended, Mr Reagan assured the public that no actions of this kind would take place in the future. Now we see, however, that despite all pledges and guarantees, arms supplies to Iran haven't stopped. Irangate continues.

I don't know whether this can be explained by the President's blessed ignorance of the unlawful proceedings behind his back or by his deliberate attempts to deceive the American and world public. This is to be cleared up by the Americans themselves. And speaking of clearing up, by the way, a White House spokesman has said work is under way there to draft a procedure for the investigation commissions to acquaint themselves with the President's personal diaries. Nobody can say for sure how long this procedure will take or when the commissions will arrive at conclusions or give concrete assessments. Members of these commissions have been pointing to the extremely complicated and delicate character of the affair, which will obviously take them a very long time to investigate. All that seems very strange, particularly in the context of involving a government which has been describing itself as the most frank and democratic one the world over.

MOSCOW COMMENTS ON FRENCH PREMIER'S VISIT TO U.S.

Levin on Chirac 'Realism'

LD022150 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 2 Apr 87

[Commentary by Viktor Levin]

[Text] French Prime Minister Chirac has finished his official visit to the United States. A news commentary by Viktor Levin who is at the microphone:

[Levin] Relations between France and the United States have lately become clouded by the existence of discord over such issues as international trade, Near East settlements, and ways of overcoming the huge foreign debt of the developing countries. On some of these issues -- first of all I would like to note the problem of the Near East settlement -- the French position is characterized by far greater realism than the United States' approach. So Prime Minister Chirac, at the final news conference in Washington, also spoke in favor of support for the idea of holding an international conference on the Near East with the participation of all the sides concerned.

Maybe the most poignant issues are those of trade-economic relations. Matters have reached a state where France openly expresses discontent at the economic policies of the power across the ocean, which persistently tries to crush its partners-competitors. During one of the days of Chirac's stay in Washington, the organ of business circles -- the newspaper LE MONDE -- openly wrote about the cynical policies in the sphere of trade of the U.S. Administration.

To iron out the trade-economic contradictions -- and in my view this task was a priority for Chirac -- judging by everything the French prime minister has made concessions to Washington in the sphere where France should have shown particular caution. We are talking about medium-range missiles and the problem of their liquidation. It is known that the Soviet Union has agreed at the present stage to take neither the French nor the British nuclear potential into consideration. One would imagine that this would have caused pleasure in Paris. As a matter of fact, French President Mitterrand assessed positively the Soviet proposal regarding isolating the problem of medium-range missiles from the general complex of questions on the limitation of nuclear and space weapons, and spoke in favor of the corresponding agreement between the USSR and the United States. I now have the impression that Chirac holds a different position.

During the talks in Washington he talked about the necessity to increase the number of U.S. shorter range missiles [rakety mensney dalnosti] in Europe. This demand is being submitted under the guise of leveling the number of such missiles between the USSR and the United States. In effect, if the question is put in this manner it creates new difficulties for working out an agreement on medium-range missiles. The Soviet Union meanwhile has proposed to accept a zero option as far as medium-range missiles are concerned, and this proposal is gaining more and more support in West Europe. Special attention is deserved by the fact that representatives of the FRG, on whose territory all the Pershing-2 and a large number of cruise missiles are found, are definitely in favor of the zero option.

The striving of Prime Minister Chirac to solve poignant problems regarding relations with the United States are quite understandable and easy to explain, but why in the meantime he is prepared to hinder the process of the limitation of nuclear weapons is impossible to understand.

Kondrashov on Reagan Meeting

LD051950 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 5 Apr 87

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Stanislav Kondrashov]

[Text] Washington had a visitor last week, French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac. He had a meeting with President Reagan on 31 March, at which they discussed East-West relations, arms control and issues connected with economic relations. They also spoke about our restructuring here in the Soviet Union and about its potential impact on the course of world affairs. As an official spokesman of the U.S. administration later stated, the two sides agreed that time is needed for impressions -- that is, their impressions of our restructuring -- to form and for assessments to be given.

It seems to me that beneath that diplomatic exterior of waiting a skeptical attitude is being deliberately cultivated, Washington is alarmed by the Soviet Union's growing prestige and would like to infect its allies with skepticism as well. This is not always successful. Thatcher, for example, has formed a fairly positive attitude. In Moscow she said that she welcomes the policy of openness, restructuring and democratization, and that these policies are paving the way to greater trust between East and West. She repeated those words in London after returning home, in her speech to the British parliament.

Chirac and Reagan also discussed the prospects for Soviet-U.S. accords on medium-range missiles, and it has to be said that in this their stance coincides with that adopted by Thatcher in Moscow. The West is complicating the path toward implementing the very zero option which the Americans themselves proposed 6 years ago and to which the Soviet Union has agreed. In the West they now want the agreement to include a limitation on Soviet shorter-range intermediate missiles and give the Americans the right to build-up such missiles until the start of subsequent talks.

TASS EXAMINES 'DEFENSE OF U.S. VITAL INTERESTS'

LD071936 Moscow TASS in English 1744 GMT 7 Apr 87

["Commentary on U.S. Imperious Ambitions" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow April 7 TASS -- TASS news analyst Valentin Vasilets writes:

In our days regional conflicts have turned into one of the main channels through which the United States maintains international tension in the present-day world.

Washington calls this "the defense of U.S. vital interests". But the phraseology cannot hide ominous facts: Wherever naval ships flying the stars and stripes, U.S. military advisers and weapons with the "Made in USA" marking appear, one should expect an aggravation of the situation, an intensification of contradictions and, possibly, new loss of life.

In Central America, the White House's stubborn attempts at overthrowing the Sandinista government and at installing in Nicaragua a regime "friendly" to the United States have destabilised the situation in the region and extended by tens of thousands of names the long list of casualties suffered by the people in the name of the victory over Somoza.

According to the data given by Miguel d'Escoto, Nicaraguan minister of foreign affairs, the United States has spent 4,000 million dollars over the past six years for subversive activity against the new government in that country.

The cancerous tumour of U.S. militarist activity has now also spread to Honduras which to an increasing extent loses its independence and increasingly resembles a military springboard for aggression against the neighbouring country which is unwelcome to Washington.

The course towards militarising Honduras is of long-term nature.

The U.S. Administration is now urging the Congress to allocate 4,500 million dollars for a three-year programme for the support of U.S. Armed Forces in Honduras.

In short, if the Pentagon is not restricted in any way in the future either, Central America will not see peace and tranquility.

President Reagan, in his speech before the Canadian Parliament on Monday, stirring up chauvinist passions in America, was again busy trying to frighten the man in the street by saying that Nicaragua was at America's doorstep, "on our own shores".

The President was trying to justify the cynical undeclared war by allusions not only to "self-protection" but also to the "higher principle", namely, "that the people of Nicaragua have the right to decide their own future".

Yes, the Nicaraguan people do have such a right, and they have already decided their future. But their entire "guilt" is that they decline to build their future according to U.S. recipes.

Well, it was stated that Nicaragua is on America's "own shores". What for, then, did the Pentagon issue an order to U.S. naval forces recently to become active in the Persian Gulf?

For every case Washington has a separate lie. In the Persian Gulf, it turns out, the United States intends to ensure the safety of ships, and not only that of American ones but of those of some Arab countries as well.

Who asked the USA to do that? Such a question can be asked with good reason by people who are guided by international law and who do not suspect that it is fist law that is placed above everything else in Washington.

The statement, for example, by Clovis Maksoud, permanent observer of the League of Arab States (LAS) at the United Nations, will be, probably, regarded in Washington as a pretentious one and out of place.

Mr Maksoud said that Arab countries did not invite anyone to ensure the freedom of navigation in the Persian Gulf.

The worse for them -- will be a reply in Washington. It means that they do not read U.S. statements and do not know that the Persian Gulf states are included in the zone of action of the Central Command (Centcom) which covers 19 countries.

And such a reply fully accords with the imperious logic which in point of fact underlies Reagan's entire doctrine of neoglobalism.

When Reagan speaks of 'higher principles' of U.S. policy in the issue of regional conflicts, his memory, apparently, automatically cuts off all recollections of 'Irangate'.

This is quite a display of Washington-style "higher principles", indeed! Reservation, half-truth, concealment of facts, and overt lies. But the point is not only in questionable ethical criteria which officials in the Washington corridors of power are guided by when elaborating regional policy. It is not in Washington that damage, the main one, is suffered.

Maybe, only the Pentagon can estimate for how long the Iranian-Iraqi war has been protracted through the double game of supplying weapons to Tehran and providing Baghdad with intelligence data. And, most probably, only the Pentagon can estimate approximately how many additional lives the game has cost.

The selfsame "higher principles" prompted Washington hand in hand with the South African racists to stir up war against Angola.

The following pattern has long been taken note of: In case of conflicts, Washington invariably sides with the most disgusting elements in the international arena.

Owing to America, the Pol Potians, who exterminated a third of their nation, are still in the picture.

The allies of the White House include the Somocistas, racists, and Pinochetistas.

To speak of "higher principles", one should be a worthy learner from George Orwell and have a perfect command of the language of duplicity. No shortage of such politicians is obviously felt in Washington.

One conclusion is indisputable: The United States' global ambitions, which are based on imperialist claims to dominate in any region and to hinder by force the peoples' striving to take the road of progress, of genuine national independence and freedom, cost the world dearly.

PRAVDA ON POSTPONEMENT OF LINNAS' EXTRADITION

PM061321 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Apr 87 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Shielding the Butcher"]

[Text] New York, 3 Apr -- The Federal Appeals Court in New York's Manhattan District decided on Thursday to postpone the extradition of inveterate Nazi criminal Karl Linnas to the Soviet Union. An order granting him 4 more days to lodge an appeal with the U.S. Supreme Court was issued when Linnas had already been taken under escort to New York's J. Kennedy International Airport.

The New York court's decision, which actually contradicts its previous decision to turn down a request by Linnas' lawyers to postpone the deportation, was evidently made under pressure from official Washington. This is by no means the first case when the U.S. authorities have shielded Nazi butchers seeking refuge from just retribution in the United States. Despite the fact that they have been provided with irrefutable evidence that Linnas personally participated in atrocities against inmates of Tartu concentration camp in Soviet Estonia, top-ranking administration spokesmen, including President Reagan and Attorney General Edwin Meese, have recently made repeated statements against the extradition of the "butcher of Tartu" to the USSR. Back in 1962 he was sentenced to death by a Soviet court in his absence for his crimes. On Thursday Meese confirmed yet again that he would make the final decision on Linnas' fate without regard for the Appeal Court's stance.

According to UPI, the U.S. authorities have already approached 16 countries with a request to offer asylum to Linnas and thus prevent his extradition to the Soviet Union. The governments of these countries have refused to give shelter to the Nazi criminal.

PRC VICE MINISTER CITED ON RELATIONS WITH USSR

PM070941 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 3

[Dispatch by own correspondent Yu. Savenkov: "Considerable Progress"]

[Text] Beijing -- How do you assess as a whole the development of relations between China and the Soviet Union? PRC Vice Foreign Minister Qian Qichen was asked at a news conference organized by the secretariat of the session of the National People's Congress -- the PRC's supreme organ of state power -- which is being held in Beijing.

Qian Qichen noted the considerable progress achieved recently in the field of the economy, trade, and personal contacts. At the same time, he stressed, there are still difficulties in improving political relations between the two countries and this question should be resolved during consultations.

The Soviet leader M.S. Gorbachev has frequently expressed the desire to improve relations between China and the Soviet Union, Qian Qichen noted, and we welcome that.

MOSCOW MANDARIN VIEWS EXPANDING TIES WITH PRC

OW300052 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0700 GMT 29 Mar 87

[Excerpts] The month of March is almost over. Many events which have taken place this month show that Soviet-Chinese ties in various fields are developing by leaps and bounds. The following are some of them as reported by our observer (Gimitliyev):

I will begin with the signing of the 1987 commodity exchange and payment protocol between the Soviet Union and China. This document stipulates that the Soviet Union will supply China with machinery and equipment, vehicles from automobiles to railroad cars, ferrous and nonferrous metals, fertilizer, cement, and many other commodities. On the other hand, China will supply our country with products of light and food industries and some kinds of sundry commodities. The 1987 protocol includes new commodities not supplied previously. It also specifies some new forms of cooperation. [passage omitted]

Chinese Vice Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Wang Pinqing made the following comments on the signed protocol: [Begin recording] We have signed the 1987 trade protocol between the two countries as a result of efforts by the two delegations on the principle of demands, possibilities, and friendly cooperation. Since the two delegations both desired to develop further the trade between the two countries, their talks proceeded smoothly in a friendly atmosphere, and both sides expressed satisfaction with the results. The Chinese delegation will continue to look for new possibilities, methods, and channels to expand and develop trade between the two countries. [end recording]

I would like to point out that during the current 5-year plan from 1986 to 1990, the volume of trade between our two countries is targeted for 12 billion rubles. In terms of the annual growth rate, China's bilateral trade with the Soviet Union is more with any other foreign country. [passage omitted]

Between 2 and 16 March, Soviet and Chinese experts held a working conference in Moscow on multipurpose utilization of water resources on the sections of the Argun and Amur Rivers along the border of the two countries. The subjects discussed by the two countries included but were not limited to the development of power industry, flood prevention, navigation, water supply, and soil amelioration. The meeting also decided on a joint project of open-field surveys, designs, and inspections to be started this coming summer.

Now I would like to dwell on cooperation in the power industry. A power industry expert group visited our country and worked with Soviet experts for over 1 month. They decided on a design for the (Jixian) thermal power plant, scheduled to be built within the current 5-year plan period. This is one of three thermal power plants to be built in China with our assistance according to the economic and technological cooperation agreement reached by the two governments in 1985 on construction and renovation of industrial projects in the PRC.

With regard to the construction of the (Jixian) thermal power plant, Ye Fengyi, leader of the Chinese group, power industry expert and deputy director of the North China Electric Power Project Design Institution, said in an interview with our station's reporter: [Begin recording] The first-stage project of the (Jixian) powerplant has a capacity of 1 million kilowatts. Two complete units of 500,000-kw steam turbo-generators will be supplied by the Soviet Union. We are very much interested in getting these 500,000-kw generators from the Soviet Union, and we are also interested in other Soviet thermal power generating equipment. We believe that China and the Soviet Union will cooperate still better in the economic and technological fields and hope that such cooperation will continue to be strengthened and developed. [end recording]

Listeners: In our country there are similar views about Soviet-Chinese ties, including views on developing relations in various scientific fields. In this connection, there is an agreement between the Soviet State Committee for Science and Technology and the Chinese State Science and Technology Commission. Pursuant to this agreement, a delegation from the Chinese Ministry of Public Health arrived in Moscow last Sunday, 22 March. The delegation is led by Prof Chen Miaolan, vice president of the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences. Included in the delegation's activities, which will last until 10 April, are meetings with Soviet medical experts to become acquainted with their work methods and visits to medical science research institutes, medical colleges, hospitals, and clinics in Moscow, Kiev, and Leningrad. [passage omitted]

PRC DENOUNCES 'TEAM SPIRIT-87' MILITARY EXERCISE

OW271135 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Unattributed commentary: "A Dangerous Exercise"]

[Text] Despite the protest of people in many countries of the region, the vast Far East has again become the venue of a military exercise. The United States and South Korea are again staging their "Team Spirit-87" military exercise in the southern part of the Korean Peninsula and its nearby waters.

This is not the first time for the Washington and Seoul authorities to point out that the exercise is defensive in nature, or to use the myth of a threat from the north as an excuse to defend it in their propaganda. On the eve of the exercise, U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger said that the military strength of the DPRK has been growing dangerously.

It is this sort of statement -- which is unrealistic, to put it mildly -- that the Pentagon uses to defend the deployment of troops for the exercise. U.S. mobile troops have been airlifted from California, Okinawa, and Hawaii as well as from the U.S. 7th Fleet to the southern part of the Korean Peninsula to take part in the exercise, which is as real as an actual war.

According to foreign press reports, the exercise includes beachhead landings and mock use of nuclear and chemical weapons. Many Asian observers point out that no one can call this exercise a defensive preparedness drill unless he has great imagination. A spokesman of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs said that the United States' annual large-scale military exercise in South Korea further intensifies the situation in the Korean Peninsula, and produces ill effects for the peaceful settlement of Korea's peaceful reunification.

As always, the DPRK has been countering the imperialist forces' adventurous policy with a peaceful policy of its own and with solidarity with the socialist and peaceful forces. This is evident from Pyongyang's proposals to Seoul and Washington. Obviously the search for peaceful cooperation and good-neighborly relations should not be conducted under threat of war. (?This principle applies) everywhere in the world.

PAPER NOTES PRC PROTEST TO JAPAN OVER TAIWAN ISSUE

PM021509 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 29 Mar 87 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "PRC Government Note"]

[Text] Beijing, 28 Mar -- As the RENMIN RIBAO newspaper reported today, Zhang Shu, PRC ambassador to Japan, has delivered a PRC Government note to the Japanese Foreign Ministry in Tokyo about a recent Japanese court decision to hand over to Taiwanese ownership a hostel for Chinese students in the city of Kyoto.

The Chinese Government, the document notes, expresses profound regret that the Japanese authorities are trying to evade responsibility for the aforementioned court decision, which violates bilateral agreements and the norms of international law. Actions of this kind set a precedent for the recognition of "two Chinas" or "one China and one Taiwan." The "case concerning the right to ownership of the student hostel" is a question of political significance, affecting the Chinese Government's legal rights and relations between the two countries.

The note contains a demand that the Japanese authorities fulfill their obligations adopted under the 1972 joint statement. It is known that, in that document, which defines the basic principles of bilateral relations, the Japanese Government recognizes the PRC Government as the only lawful government of China and regards with full understanding and respect the PRC Government's position that Taiwan is an integral part of the PRC.

PRC'S ZHAO WARNING AGAINST 'LIBERALIZATION' CITED

PM311131 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Mar 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "National People's Congress Session Opens"]

[Text] Beijing, 25 Mar -- A Chinese National People's Congress (NPC) session began today in the Great Hall of the People in the Chinese capital.

The deputies of the country's supreme organ of state power will discuss a report on the work of the PRC Government, approve the plan for economic and social development and the state budget for 1987, adopt a number of bills presented by the NPC Standing Committee, and examine other matters.

The report on the government's work was delivered at the session by Zhao Ziyang, acting general secretary of the CPC Central Committee and premier of the PRC State Council. He noted that considerable successes were achieved last year in the sphere of socioeconomic development. Gross output exceeded 1.8 trillion yuan and the national income was 779 billion yuan. There was corresponding development in the area of economic reform, which is the main factor in the growth of the Chinese economy. The political situation was strengthened and socialist democracy and legality were improved.

At the same time, there are still a number of problems that need to be solved. In the economy there is still a contradiction between society's needs and the economy's potential, the state budget now shows a certain deficit, prices of a number of goods have risen too much, and it has not been possible to achieve a balance between foreign currency expenditure and revenue. As for the ideological-political sphere, there are still many difficulties in the sphere of eliminating the influence of the ideological current of "bourgeois liberalization," and "bureaucracy and other manifestations of defective style in the work of government bodies and institutions are comparatively strong."

According to the PRC State Council premier, the main task facing China at the moment is the development of the "movement for increased production with the strictest savings" in the economic building sphere. The organization of educational work and propaganda on basic political principles, resolute struggle against "bourgeois liberalization," the strengthening of the "building of socialist spiritual culture," and the consolidation and development of an "atmosphere of stability and cohesion" -- these are the main tasks in Chinese society's political life.

Dwelling on matters pertaining to the struggle against "bourgeois liberalization," he said that this ideological current essentially rejects the "four cardinal principles, is trying to get away from leadership by the party, rejects socialism, and advocates the capitalist path of development."

Noting the danger of the spread of "bourgeois liberalization," Zhao Ziyang called for an uncompromising struggle against this ideological current, and he pointed out that the struggle, which will be a prolonged one, must not become a [mere] political campaign. At the same time, he said, China will continue to follow the course of reforms, expanding links with the outside world and revitalizing the domestic economy.

The speaker touched on the PRC's foreign policy activity, stating that the current international situation remains complex and the factor of war is still present. But, he stressed, the growth of peace-loving forces and their activity have made the achievement of world peace perfectly feasible. China will continue to conduct a separate, independent foreign policy and seek to reunify the homeland.

IZVESTIYA CITES ZHAO ON NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

PM071145 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS dispatch: "Zhao Ziyang Statement"]

[Text] Beijing, 4 Apr -- China as a nuclear power has never rejected its responsibility for nuclear disarmament, Zhao Ziyang, acting general secretary of the CPC Central Committee and premier of the PRC State Council, said here at a reception in honor of Prime Minister I. Carlsson of Sweden, who is on an official visit here.

According to RENMIN RIBAO, the Chinese leader stressed that the struggle against the arms race and promotion of effective disarmament are an important integral part of Chinese foreign policy. From the first day when it acquired nuclear weapons, Zhao Ziyang noted, the PRC declared that it would never, under any circumstances, be the first to use nuclear weapons, nor would it ever use them or threaten to use them against nonnuclear countries or nuclear-free zones. China favors a total ban on and destruction of all types of nuclear weapons.

At the same time the Chinese leader declared that the "two superpowers" must bear responsibility for disarmament and be the first to implement large-scale arms reductions.

STATE COUNCIL TO BOOST HIGH TECHNOLOGY SECTORS

PM301003 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 27 Mar 87 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Leading Edge of Progress"]

[Text] Beijing, 26 Mar -- The PRC State Council has adopted a 15-year program giving priority to the development of a number of sectors at the leading edge of scientific and technical progress. Special attention will be paid to the power industry, space technology, data processing, laser technology, automation facilities, compounds, and biotechnology. XINHUA reports that China intends to cooperate with foreign countries on equal terms in research in these areas.

AGREEMENT REACHED ON LITERARY PUBLISHING EXCHANGE

OW311031 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 0300 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Literature lovers in the Soviet Union and China are interested in reading the literary works of the other country.

Personnel of the Soviet Literature Publishing House are holding talks with their Chinese counterparts in Beijing and Shanghai. A 40-volume collection of Chinese literary works will be published in the Soviet Union, with the first 2 volumes to come off the press this year. China will publish a 50-volume collection of Soviet literary works.

During the present visit, the Soviet personnel will also discuss publishing collections of novelettes and short stories by modern writers from the two countries.

KAMENTSEV-LED DELEGATION ARRIVES IN INDIA

LD072149 Moscow TASS in English 2005 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] New Delhi April 7 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vladimir Baydashin reports:

Questions of the further development of Soviet-Indian commercial and economic cooperation in the light of the arrangements reached during the visit to India by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev in November last and his talks with India's Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi will be discussed at a meeting of the co-chairmen of the Inter-Governmental Soviet-Indian Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation that opens here on Wednesday.

A large Soviet delegation today arrived in India for the purpose. It is headed by Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Chairman of the State External Economic Commission of the USSR Council of Ministers Vladimir Kamentsev. Co-Chairman of the joint commission from the Indian side, India's Minister of External Affairs Narayan Dutt Tiwari who met him at the Delhi Airport said in an interview to the TASS correspondent: In the period that has passed since the latest Indian-Soviet Summit, both sides have carried out vast work for the planning of the further cooperation. There is a need now for coordinating joint efforts with our Soviet friends to analyse how far we can advance toward achieving the lofty goals set. This must be a realistic and innovatory approach fully in keeping with the agreements that were signed by Mikhail Gorbachev and Rajiv Gandhi in the spirit of the Delhi Declaration, the Indian minister said.

Answering questions from newsmen Vladimir Kamentsev said: "As you know, a major agreement on economic and technological cooperation between the USSR and India was signed during a visit to India by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and his meetings with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. As co-chairmen of the Inter-Governmental Soviet-Indian Commission for Cooperation, Narayan Dutt Tiwari and I agreed to meet from time to time to analyse how the decisions recorded in the agreement are implemented. During the coming talks in Delhi with our Indian colleagues we shall analyse what has been done in this direction over the period that has passed since the meeting between the leaders of our countries."

"A great deal has been done over this period and much remains to be done. Work has been started and is advancing in all directions. But there are, apparently, questions which require solution from our side and from the Indian side. We are prepared to discuss all problems which our Indian friends will raise."

"We attach much importance to commercial and economic cooperation. As Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said, we have the goal of increasing the trade turnover between the USSR and India by 150 percent. How can this be achieved? To my mind, this can be achieved not only through trade but also through new forms of cooperation: joint enterprises, construction, scientific and technological cooperation, the widening of the list of goods exchanged."

"During our talks in Delhi we shall also touch upon the questions of holding festivals in both countries. This year is out of the ordinary for India and the Soviet Union. India will be observing 40 years of its independence, while the Soviet Union will be celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. Indian friends are welcome to the Soviet Union," Vladimir Kamentsev said.

DUSHMAN ATTACK ON TAJIK TOWN, RETALIATION DETAILED

PM061131 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Apr 87 First Edition p 3

[Correspondent Major A. Oliynik dispatch under the rubric "We Report Details": "Bandit Action"]

[Text] Kabul-Konduz, April -- It happened 8 March. The festive evening in the small city of Pyandzh in the Tajik SSR was interrupted by a rocket attack perpetrated by Afghan dushmans from the other side of the border. With that base crime extremists in the Afghan counterrevolutionary camp were reckoning on creating panic in Soviet people and showing the vulnerability of the USSR's borders. The bandit action was also aimed at wrecking the national reconciliation process in the DRA.

We will return again to the results of the dushmans' villainous crime. But for now we will cite a VOA report which was broadcast without delay, literally the next day. "Forces of the Islamic resistance have reported that Mujahidin in the Konduz region made a rocket strike on the Soviet city of Pyandzh. At least 120 people were killed or injured as a result of the shelling. The exact number of casualties is not known, as people's remains are still being pulled out from under the ruins of houses..." That shameless VOA lie was picked up by other enemy radio voices which are still continuing to relish the dushmans' monstrous act of vandalism. And this confirms over and over again that the strike against the Soviet border district was planned by those who seek to prevent a political settlement in the DRA and who are interested in charging the atmosphere on the USSR's southern borders.

But how did circumstances really take shape near the Soviet city of Pyandzh? What is the real scale of destruction, and are there any human casualties?

...A group of Soviet journalists went to the north of Afghanistan, by the border that runs along the Pyandzh River, met with border guards, Afghan Army servicemen, and personnel of the limited contingent of Soviet troops who participated in routing the gangs, and familiarized themselves with the testimonies of captured dushmans. Here are the details of the bandit attack carried out by the dushman rabble.

On that March evening 10 shells fired from field rocket launchers and recoilless guns exploded on Soviet territory. The majority of them exploded in the outskirts, but several fell inside the city limits. The fire which was on the point of flaring up was extinguished by the local population and firemen. Unfortunately, there were casualties -- one person was killed, and two, including a child, received light injuries.

But a counterstrike was made against the dushmans. Soviet border guard subunits were simultaneously raised by the alarm. The necessary forces were sent to the region of the village of (Alchin), from where, according to Afghan air reconnaissance data, the shelling was carried out: Subunits of the limited contingent of Soviet troops, units of an Afghan infantry division, and operational detachments of the people's militia and state security approached that area. An extensive territory north of Konduz, including the Eman Sahab and (Inanbad) districts, was quickly blockaded. Combing of the entire locality began, during which counterrevolutionary groupings offered resistance.

Here it has to be said that in Konduz Province, from the very first days of national reconciliation in the country, the dushmans switched to tough forms of struggle against the people's power, acts of terrorism, and murders of totally innocent people [paragraph continues]

During the very first days of reconciliation (Abdul Arezbegi), chairman of the reconciliation extraordinary commission, was brutally murdered, and the dushmans shelled the provincial center, district centers, villages, and Afghan troop posts and garrisons practically every day. Deliveries of all kinds of weapons and ammunition from Pakistan continued intensively. According to Afghan border guards, approximately 160 large and small gangs were operating in Konduz Province, with a total strength of more than 5,000 men. And more than 50 percent of the dushmans had received special training in military camps under the leadership of American and Pakistani advisors and CIA agents. The gangs possessed heavy armament, including recoilless guns, mortars, and rocket launchers of American manufacture.

In the course of fighting 4 weapon and ammunition dumps, 96 rockets of various kinds, 8 rocket launchers, and thousands of antitank and antipersonnel mines of a foreign pattern were captured and destroyed. Dushman losses totaled more than 300 killed and twice as many injured. Some 136 dushmans were taken prisoner. Those killed include a certain (Abdul Khakim), one of the counterrevolutionaries' leaders, and gang leader Nasrollah Mansur. The gangs of (Chugai) and (Mirza Nasri), which were directly involved in the shelling of Soviet territory, were totally routed. Prisoners have testified that officers of the Pakistani special services, disguised in Afghan national dress, visited those gangs the previous day. For carrying out that action the leaders were promised 1 million afghanis each, and the ordinary members 10,000 afghanis each. Prisoners — particularly (Khekmattulla) of (Latif's) gang — have admitted that it had been planned to carry out two more rocket attacks on Soviet territory after the first one. However, the decisive measures by Soviet and Afghan troops thwarted the bandits' bloody schemes.

Thus, the mercenaries of imperialism and of the U.S. and Pakistani special services received just retribution. The purging of gangs from the territory north of Konduz has now been completed. Normal working life is being restored in the districts and villages the dushmans were plundering. Party and state organs of power and members of national reconciliation extraordinary commissions are making every effort to stabilize the situation in that region. These days the ranks of the Afghan Army have been swelled by more than 150 men, and the ranks of the people's militia by approximately 200, and self-defense detachments are being formed.

The population of Konduz, like the entire working people of Afghanistan, is profoundly indignant at the counterrevolution's villainous action.

"The shelling of Soviet territory," (Mariam Karvar), chairman of the provincial committee of the All-Afghan Women's Council, said at a rally in Konduz, "has once again laid bare the true face of the enemies of reconciliation, who are closely connected with U.S. imperialists. The bandits have incurred a just punishment, which must be an object lesson to all who still cherish dreams of returning Afghanistan to the past and who hope to use terror to halt national reconciliation in the country and to weaken the bonds of Soviet-Afghan friendship."

In conversation with KRASNAYA ZVEZDA's correspondent Major General (Mir Abdul Karim), commander in chief of DRA Border Forces, expressed profound condolences with the Soviet citizens in the city of Pyandzh who suffered as a result of the base dushman shelling. He emphasized that border troop subunits together with units of the DRA Armed Forces are taking all measures to completely purge Afghanistan's northern regions of the gangs. The inspirers of the undeclared war are making futile efforts. The idea of national reconciliation is increasingly deeply penetrating the people's masses. Ordinary Afghans see Soviet people as their true friends. And no provocations can blacken this friendship.

DRA'S KHATIB DEFENDS RECONCILIATION AIMS

PMO61205 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 3 Apr 87 First Edition p 5

[Interview with Abdorrahim Khatib, chairman of the Afghan National Fatherland Front Central Council, by special correspondent A. Mozgovoy: "Reconciliation Is the Only Sensible and Just Way to a Settlement" -- first three grafs are SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA introduction, date not given]

[Text] Kabul, Moscow -- A few days ago (in its 29 March edition) SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA wrote about the provocative shelling by dushman formations of the Afghan Paktia Province from Pakistani territory. These bandit excesses are causing a large number of casualties. And now another tragic report has been received from the DRA: Two Pakistani Air Force fighters downed an An-26 passenger aircraft on its way from Kabul to Khowst district over Paktia. Forty people aboard the plane, including two children, perished.

This brutal act is a consequence of the Islamabad authorities' connivance with the forces opposing the process of national reconciliation in the DRA and do not want a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan. The United States is directly involved in this crime. It was U.S.-made F-16 fighters supplied as part of the U.S. "aid" to Pakistan that downed the Afghan aircraft. Thus, against the backdrop of real opportunities to achieve an accord at the Afghan-Pakistani talks in Geneva, Washington is doing its utmost to thwart and explode a political settlement. However, the Afghan people are filled with determination to establish peace in their land and to ensure the security of the whole region.

Abdorrahim Khatib is a philologist by education and a business man by trade. He first became involved in politics under the monarchy -- he was elected to the royal senate by the inhabitants of Qandahar. Now he is chairman of the Central Council of the DRA National Fatherland Front (NFF), which unites 800,000 of the country's patriots without regard to party affiliation. After the proclamation of the program for national reconciliation at the enlarged extraordinary PDPA Central Committee Plenum last December a Supreme Extraordinary Commission for National Reconciliation was set up by the NFF. A. Khatib was placed at its head. Naturally, our interview opened with a question about what changes the process of national reconciliation has introduced into the republic's life.

[Khatib] First of all I would like to say that the people not only understand the idea of national reconciliation but that every honest Afghan citizen has adopted it as his own vital concern.

[Mozgovoy] Yet people in the West as well as the counterrevolutionary ringleaders entrenched in Pakistan are saying that the national reconciliation is no more than a "propaganda gesture" on the part of Kabul...

[Khatib] Let us take a closer look at what is behind this "propaganda gesture." First, the government introduced a cease-fire as of 15 January. That means that the death toll and the blood letting has been considerably reduced. Second, a broad amnesty has been proclaimed to apply to people who decide to cease hostilities. Members of opposition military groupings have accepted the aims of the reconciliation and returned to their homes. The authorities have deemed it possible to let them keep their weapons. This is an act of great trust. Third, the government, the Revolutionary Council, and the NFF have addressed an appeal to fellow countrymen who have left the country inviting them to return home. [paragraph continues]

The state has allocated hundreds of millions of afghanis to buy food and essentials for the refugees who are returning home. Considerable sums of money have been contributed to the aid fund by individual citizens as well as enterprises and organizations. Fourth, in all the provinces some 1,200 local commissions for national reconciliation have been set up, composed of representatives of the National Front, tribal leaders and elders, religious figures, and leaders of armed formations who have joined the government side. They have been invested with great powers -- they conduct talks with those who are still continuing hostilities, they distribute seed and food, they allocate money and materials for the restoration of schools and mosques, and they provide other assistance to the population. And I could cite you a fifth, sixth, and seventh example... But the main point is not the number of examples that can be cited but the fact that the national reconciliation is by no means a "gesture" but a political reality which is consolidated daily by practical acts.

[Mozgovoy] Another thesis in the Western propaganda arsenal which is vigorously pushed is the claim that the course toward national reconciliation is "evidence of weakness" on the Afghan authorities' part. What do you say to that?

[Khatib] Indeed, the undeclared war against Afghanistan has caused great damage to our already poor country. However, the state has not only not disintegrated, it has grown stronger. The people understand that the economic and social transformations carried out by the government are implemented with their interests in mind. The proclamation of the course of national reconciliation has further strengthened respect for the authorities. What kind of weakness is it if we hold out our hand to the opposition? The doors of the National Front, for instance, are open even to those who do not support the PDPA platform but who consider themselves patriots and are prepared to do everything they can to ensure their country's prosperity.

We offer a dialogue based on equality; we do not dictate terms. Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, recently invited the opposition to enter into talks on the formation of a government of national unity. This is a manifestation of strength rather than weakness. On the other hand, those who refuse to take steps in response are demonstrating their bankruptcy and political impotence. If you like, even the very fact of the sharp increase in U.S. aid to the counterrevolutionary groupings in Pakistan is evidence of the success of the national reconciliation policy in Afghanistan. It has put fear into Washington, which is now trying to buy the vacillating opposition with dollar handouts.

The Afghan people are building their future in the process of national reconciliation. In other words, national reconciliation is a program of peace and creation. Meanwhile its opponents' arguments are confined to bullets and violence. And, what is more, both of these are paid for in dollars.

[Mozgovoy] You have been speaking about the obstacles to national reconciliation created by external forces. Are there also difficulties on the domestic scene?

[Khatib] In the past, Afghanistan has ranked among the most backward countries. And not in the economic but also in the social sphere. However, do not believe those who claim that the Afghans only dream about preserving their backwardness and retaining their customs. The April Revolution has shaken up the country. The aims it proclaimed accord with the interests of all tribes and ethnic groups. It declared all citizens free and equal and opened up the prospect of prosperity and education, the prospect of every Afghan citizen's being well fed and clothed, having a roof over his head, and a physician to go to. However, the reforms proclaimed by the revolution -- and very necessary reforms they were -- frequently failed to take account of the country's special characteristics.

Afghanistan is a multinational country with a complex structure. There are peasant farmers in our country and nomadic and seminomadic tribes. Tribal and family relations and ties are very strong here. To begin with the revolutionary authorities failed to grasp the whole complexity and involved nature of the problems facing them, including the agrarian and peasant question. They failed to implement the necessary comprehensive measures in the countryside in the economic, social, political, and cultural spheres. The agrarian reform was implemented hastily without taking account of regional characteristics. Mistakes were also made in the implementation of other important laws. This was exploited by the revolution's enemies, who set about sowing seeds of distrust in the government's policy. Falling prey to deception and false promises, many families linked by tribal ties left the motherland.

Nonetheless, despite the mistakes and miscalculations, the revolution propelled the country out of the Middle Ages. Just look: Today every Afghan is discussing politics. Not always independently, sometimes parroting other people. But before he did not even know the word "politics." Slowly but surely awareness of the great aims of the revolution is reaching the most remote villages.

At present a number of important draft laws, including the constitution and the revised land and water reform, are in preparation. After comprehensive discussion they will be adopted and will come into force. But the main guarantee of their success is peace.

Naturally, it is not possible to resolve problems that built up over many years with 2-3 months of national reconciliation, as if by magic. Most probably, in our endeavor to achieve a fundamental breakthrough as quickly as possible, we are committing errors here and there. After all, reconciliation is not just a difficult process, it is also a completely new process that calls for the resolution of new as well as old contradictions. They sometimes arise during the discussion of specific forms of work in a given province or district. However, they can undoubtedly be resolved with the involvement of a broad circle of people expressing the interests of the various strata and sections of the population and thus broadening the social base of the people's power.

[Mozgovoy] The refugees returning to the country have to be supplied not only with food, medical services, and shelter but also with work. What is being done to resolve this problem?

[Khatib] The question of employment is an acute one, especially in the cities. We are therefore very grateful to the Soviet Union for its proposal to set up a network of mixed enterprises including participation by the private sector. Recently our government examined measures to bring a number of private enterprises into service. The equipment for these enterprises is paid for by Soviet credits. When they go into operation they will provide work for 1,000 people. But that is only the beginning.

I am a former businessman myself, and I know that many enterprises that are virtually at a standstill now could be made quite profitable with even a small amount of modernization and could supply not just the domestic but also the foreign market.

In conclusion I would like to emphasize that national reconciliation is the only sensible and just way to deal with our domestic problems and to achieve a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan. The forces opposing this process are committing a crime against our country and against international security.

TASS CITES NAJIBULLAH ON WORK ON NEW CONSTITUTION

LD070857 Moscow TASS in English 0806 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] Kabul April 7 TASS — The constitution of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan should become a really democratic and effective fundamental law under present conditions in the country, Najib, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), said here today at a regular meeting of the special commission for drafting a new constitution of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. He said that during the years that followed the April Revolution new normative documents were prepared, ones covering practically all spheres — economics and politics, culture and public life, state and military affairs. The time has come to adopt the fundamental law of the republic, he went on.

The general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee said that the experience gained by Muslim states following a non-capitalist road of development and by the socialist countries, the Soviet Union in particular, was carefully studied in the course of work on the draft constitution. The draft constitution takes into account the documents of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan concerning the future fundamental law, the proposals of leading Afghan jurists and traditional principles of democracy as embodied in Jergas [assemblies].

The principles of national reconciliation are also taken into consideration. The draft constitution specifies the main directions of revolutionary reforms, including land and water reform, elimination of social inequality, the anti-illiteracy drive and development of health services. It formulates the democratic rights and duties of citizens and covers all aspects of the nationalities question, the Afghan leader said.

The draft constitution takes fully into account the traditions and customs of the people and the interests of believers, Najib said.

The completion of work on the draft constitution, Najib said, will not mean that the commission's work is over. Its members bear full responsibility for organizing a broad discussion of the draft constitution by the population. As is known, he said, even those siding with the enemies of the people's government may take part in the discussion. We urge all our compatriots to take an active part in the discussion of this major document. "We are saying to our opponents: Discuss the draft fundamental law, criticise it, make your own proposals. The commission will carefully study your views, your critical remarks and proposals and take decisions on them. Should serious differences arise the commission members would be ready to discuss them."

The BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY says that the meeting was attended by high-ranking leaders of the republic.

CPSU DELEGATION CONCLUDES SRI LANKA VISIT

PM031055 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Apr 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Departure From Sri Lanka"]

[Text] Colombo, 31 Mar — A CPSU delegation consisting of V.V. Bakatin, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Kirov CPSU Obkom (delegation head), and L.V. Khlebnikov, senior official of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, left here for Moscow 30 March. The delegation had taken part in the work of the 13th Congress of the Communist Party of Sri Lanka.

SHISHLIN REMARKS ON GORBACHEV'S UPCOMING VISIT

LD071747 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1630 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] Prior to the forthcoming visit of Mikhail Gorbachev, the highest Soviet party representative, to Czechoslovakia, Stefan Simak, our permanent Moscow correspondent, interviewed Nikolay Shishlin, employee of the CPSU Central Committee, about the development of the Czechoslovak-Soviet relations.

[Begin recording] [Simak in Russian fading to Slovak translation] Mikhail Gorbachev is leaving for Czechoslovakia at a time when great changes are taking place in the USSR, at a time when cooperation among the socialist countries is being enriched in new forms. From this point of view, what do you expect from the forthcoming visit?

[Shishlin in Russian fading to Slovak translation] We expect a lot in the USSR, above all in the area of deepening mutual economic cooperation. The restructuring that is taking place in our country, naturally, is subordinated [podridit] to our internal interests -- politics, and speeding up economic and social development. However, it would not suffice to stop at the above point. Restructuring in the USSR also aims at enriching cooperation with our friends in the socialist countries and, naturally, also in Czechoslovakia. Our two countries have vast experience in economic cooperation. But one has to say frankly that in many areas these relations are maintaining an archaic form.

So far, direct production relations are developing unsatisfactorily. Formation of joint enterprises has remained a mere wish. At the same time, it is high time for such enterprises to start operation so that we can realize their production not only on the Czechoslovak and Soviet markets, but also on the markets of third countries. What is involved, therefore, is, above all, increasing efficiency of cooperation and seeking truly new forms. I think that both Moscow and Prague have something to say about this.

[Simak] Czechoslovakia lies in the heart of Europe, a Europe that has begun to feel hope for real disarmament. Can it be expected that the visit of Mikhail Gorbachev to Czechoslovakia also will focus on European affairs?

[Shishlin] I think we will not be mistaken if we presuppose that in analyzing the issues of peace in Europe and international security, Comrades Gorbachev and Husak will pay particular attention to our common European home. What matters today is whether in 1987 we are able to achieve real change, in particular regarding the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe, or whether it will have to be postponed indefinitely. In that case progress would be delayed for at least 2 years.

Our tasks, therefore, are to activate the foreign policy of European socialist countries and West European states, and to improve the efficiency of the USSR-U.S. dialogue. We know very well in the USSR that Czechoslovakia maintains active relations with its European neighbors and that its voice in foreign policy is sufficiently strong. Therefore I think that during the visit of the CPSU Central Committee general secretary coordination of our effort in the world, and consequently in Europe, will receive new impetus. [end recording]

CSSR'S RUDE PRAVO ON CPSU'S 'INNOVATIVE EFFORTS'

PMO71013 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Apr 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "The CPSU's Innovative Efforts"]

[Text] Prague, 3 Apr -- The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum, the 27th CPSU Congress, and the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum not only constitute an important contribution to the creative development of Leninism in the Soviet Union, but also have enormous importance for the international communist movement, the newspaper RUDE PRAVO writes in an article entitled "For a Qualitatively New Level of Development of the International Revolutionary Movement."

The events now taking place in the USSR are not just worthy of attention. It is necessary to thoroughly study, analyze, and use the experience of Soviet policy and practice. The CPCZ, the working people, and all sincere champions of socialism in the republic are carefully following the CPSU's innovative efforts, support them, and draw inspiration from them. The restructuring of Czechoslovak society and all areas of its activity calls for a new look at a number of fundamental questions and the ways to solve them. This applies to the activity of party, state, and economic organs, and to National Front organizations and national committees, both to the base and the superstructure. This, in turn, demands a broad development of socialist democracy and expansion of the people's participation in the running of society.

The 17th CPCZ Congress and the decisions it adopted opened broad scope for progress in the economic, political, social, and ideological spheres. Czechoslovak Communists are using the results of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum to intensify preparations for social reforms [reformy] and accelerate the development of Czechoslovak society. As G. Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, emphasized at the CPCZ Central Committee plenum, throughout its history the CPCZ has been learning from Soviet Communists and is applying their experience now, RUDE PRAVO points out.

GDR, CSSR PROPOSE FRG NUCLEAR-FREE CORRIDOR

PMO71353 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Apr 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS reports: "To Start Talks"]

[Text] Berlin, 4 Apr -- Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, has made a proposal to FRG Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl on starting talks on creating a corridor free from nuclear weapons in Central Europe.

Both German states, the GDR leader's message says, must see it as their special task to actively contribute to the realization of the prospect of the creation of a nuclear-free world outlined at the Soviet-American summit in Reykjavik. The elimination of all nuclear weapon stocks on both sides of the dividing line between NATO and the Warsaw Pact in central Europe would result in the easing of confrontation between the two military-political alliances and the strengthening of trust and of the security of all the states affected by this step and their neighbors and allies. The document points out that the creation of a corridor would be a real contribution to the elimination of nuclear weapons in Europe.

Prague, 4 Apr -- The Czechoslovak Government is proposing to the FRG Government that talks begin immediately on the creation of a corridor free from nuclear weapons in central Europe. So says a letter from CSSR Premier Lubomir Strougal to FRG Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

The Reykjavik meeting between the leaders of the USSR and the United States raised the issue of nuclear weapons to a qualitatively new level. It is the question of eliminating nuclear arsenals in Europe that has been brought to the forefront.

The significance of a corridor free from nuclear weapons has increased in connection with the USSR's proposal on eliminating Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe. The CSSR sees its creation as a possible way of contributing through joint efforts to the elimination of nuclear weapons in central Europe and the safeguarding of peace and security. The corridor would extend width-wise for 150 km on both sides the dividing line between the states in question. At the next stage it is intended to extend the corridor to cover the whole of the central European region.

ROMANIA SIGNS PROTOCOL ON BORDER RIVER WATERS

PMO71409 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 4 Apr 87 p 3

[TASS report: "Regular Exchanges"]

[Text] A protocol has been signed in the Romanian capital on cooperation between the USSR and Romania in the area of agriculture with respect to border river water resources. The document envisages regular exchanges of hydrological and hydrometric information on the situation in the Danube Basin and the carrying out of a number of joint measures to protect the Danube waters from pollution.

During the talks, it was stressed that USSR-Romanian cooperation in the use and protection of the water resources of the Danube and the Prut is mutually advantageous and makes it possible to take effective measures to use border river water resources for national economic purposes.

HUNGARY'S VANCSA DISCUSSES 'DIRECT TIES'

PMO71359 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Apr 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Development of Cooperation"]

[Text] V.S. Murakhovskiy, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Agro-Industrial Committee, has received J. Vancsa, Hungarian minister of agriculture and food.

The state of scientific, technical, and economic cooperation between the two countries in the agro-industrial complex area was analyzed in the course of the friendly conversation. The sides positively assessed its results.

Particular attention was given to questions of further developing and deepening bilateral ties in the agro-industrial area, including the development of new forms by establishing direct ties between organizations and enterprises in the two countries and the creation of joint enterprises.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS ON YUGOSLAV ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

PM061157 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent L. Kolosov report: "Yugoslavia: Anxieties and Hopes"]

[Text] Belgrade -- Rapid-fire interviews in front of the television camera.... Unexpected and unprepared. In the evenings they are listened to by millions of Yugoslavs as they sit in front of their television screens for the evening "Diary" broadcasts, which are similar to our "Vremya" news program. In general it is not a new method, but it is very effective for enabling the "man in the street" to express himself.

But there recently has been a certain metamorphosis in these interviews: People have begun to answer journalists' questions with questions.... Why are prices rising uncontrollably? Why is inflation soaring? Why has a wave of strikes swept the country? And many other "whys of various kinds." Of course, all these questions are answered not by people holding microphones or cameras, but by statesmen and party figures, economists, and representatives of public circles.

If we generalize and formulate the answers briefly they have a similar ring: The "Long-term Program of Economic Stabilization" adopted in 1983 is not being fulfilled.

Of course, one should not see only the negative phenomena, although it is on these that the attention of all types of mass information in the SFRY is now focused. At a news conference in Belgrade recently, M. Milosavljevic, vice president of the Federal Executive Council, said that for all the difficulties in the past year and in the first months of 1987, there had been an increase, albeit only a small one, in industrial production, the situation in agriculture had improved markedly, there had been some increase in employment, and the balance of payments had been put in credit, which had made it possible to extinguish within the agreed deadline part of the foreign debt and interest on loans.

It was pleasant to hear all this, although, as the same news conference stressed, there are considerably more achievements than difficulties today. Indeed, the Yugoslavs themselves are not very fond of speaking of their successes as long as black clouds of inflation. It has pervaded every pore of the state's economic mechanism. In a recent interview with the West German magazine DER SPIEGEL, B. Mikulic, president of the Federal Executive Council, cited figures for inflation in 1986. Inflation was 100 percent. The magazine ILUSTROVANA POLITIKA has reported that at the beginning of this year the department stores of the Beograd commercial association increased prices for 468 types of goods while the capital's Centroprom trade center increased prices for 778 types of goods.

Why are prices increasing? First, as a result of the fact that consumption chronically exceeds production. Second, because of the absence of effective control over price formation. The mechanism of public self-management is still not working with enough precision at some industrial and agricultural enterprises, where economic autonomy, the magazine KOMUNIST noted recently, "has sometimes been taken to the point of absurdity": Taking advantage of their relative freedom in the field of price setting, they are seeking to put their affairs to rights not by an increase in labor productivity, but through speculative price hiking.

It was this fact that forced the SFRY Federal Assembly to pass a series of laws imposing more stringent control on the social expenditure of enterprises and limiting working people's personal income to the framework of their productive labor. But the "extraordinary" measures were not uniformly understood locally. Recently, the weekly RAD wrote, strikes were held at 69 enterprises in which about 25,000 people took part. The Yugoslav press notes that in all the postwar years there has never been such a wave of protests....

Addressing a session of the Sarajevo City party organization committee recently, M. Renovica, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidency, criticized some administrative and in some places party leaders who have voluntarily or involuntarily become the instigators of strikes in their attempt to cover up omissions in economic activity.

The struggle is growing in Yugoslavia for the immediate implementation of the main strategic avenues of the long-term program, for the resolute elimination of negative phenomena and blunders in economic life, because it is these which create the ground for the revival of antisocialist ideology and the strengthening of the phenomena of separatism and nationalism. Yes, antisocialist elements are raising their heads in this difficult period for the country. That is why an LCY Central Committee plenum devoted to society's ideological problems has been scheduled for the end of April.

A "Message From the Youth of 1987" was published in the press recently. It was signed "The pioneers and young people of Yugoslavia." It contains many bitter words: "We have grown up with the crisis and are witnessing each turn in it. Our experience of life since our primers and tales of the partisans has been of foreign debts inherited from our fathers, stratification in society, and endless waiting lists at the employment bureaus. Now that we must defend Yugoslavia, fraternity, and unity, we frequently feel confused by other people's mistakes and our own doubts...." But the message also contains other words: "We want to intervene in history," it says. "Supporting the revolution means struggling for it. Coming out for self-management means developing it..., We can no longer be the generation that merely shrugs its shoulders. We are proud that we have our own vision of the world, of socialism, and of our own self-management efficiency...."

These words contain anxiety and hope.

GORBACHEV SENDS MESSAGE ON RELATIONS TO PERES

TA080729 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 8 Apr 87 p 2

[Report by Ilan Kfir, Ze'ev Ofiri, and Eliyahu Zehavi, Copenhagen]

[Excerpt] Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has sent a message to Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres expressing Soviet willingness in principle to take part in an international conference on peace in the Middle East, and to improve the political relations with Israel. The Soviet message was relayed to Peres via two senior Soviet officials who came to Italy for a meeting with him. The meeting was held in Rome yesterday and today Peres is scheduled to meet with them again.

The two Soviet representatives, Karen Brutents and Aleksandr Zotov, a senior diplomat in the Middle East Department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, came to Rome officially as observers of the deliberations of the Socialist International, but the real purpose of their arrival was the meeting with Peres. The meeting was coordinated in secret contacts between the foreign minister's Jerusalem office and Soviet diplomats in the Kremlin. Peres' political adviser, Dr Nimrod Novik, coordinated the contacts from the Israeli side. Only a few months ago Novik met with Soviet representatives in London.

The main topics discussed at the meeting were the furthering of an international conference, the emigration of Jews from the Soviet Union in direct flights to Israel via Romania, and thawing the diplomatic relations between Israel and the Soviet Union. Israel continues to make Soviet participation in an international conference dependent on the renewal of diplomatic relations between the countries.

Peres' meeting with the Soviet diplomats is a direct continuation of his meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in New York.

Palestinian representatives from the territories have also arrived in Rome with the special authorization of the Israeli Government.

Peres plans further meetings in the near future with senior Soviet figures, and his office does not dismiss the possibility that this very year Peres will hold yet another meeting with the Soviet foreign minister, either in Moscow or in a European capital. It has been learned that he plans to continue his initiative to promote an international conference, despite the anger of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. [passage omitted]

BRUTENTS STRESSES IMPORTANCE OF 'DIRECT TALKS'

TA080635 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 8 Apr 87 pp 1, 2

["Exclusive" report from Rome by Gid'on Kouts]

[Excerpt] "You want to put the cart before the horse and talk about the form of the international conference even before there is one; an international peace conference does not replace direct negotiations, we support such negotiations; the sides will have to decide on the form of the negotiations; we are not opposed to subcommittees as proposed by Mr Peres."

This was said to me by senior Soviet official Karen Brutents. I spoke with him and his adviser, Aleksandr Zotov, for about 15 minutes in the lobby of the Sheraton Hotel a short time after he had concluded his meeting with Shim'on Peres. The smiles, sense of humor, and the good atmosphere were evidence of what had taken place with the vice prime minister.

"Israel cannot speak with all its neighbors; somebody must lead it to this; we are opposed to an imposed solution, whether it is imposed by the Soviet Union, the United States, or Israel," the Soviet official said.

"Why is Peres afraid of an imposed solution? Perhaps he is afraid that he will not succeed in imposing his own solution? Do you think Mr Peres will succeed in overcoming the difficulties in his own government?" he asked. "I think that in the end Israel will have to speak with the PLO, but the Palestinians themselves will have to decide on their representatives to an international conference. I hope this is the beginning of a process, but the difficulties still remain. It is now up to Israel to take steps forward." [passage omitted]

YELTSIN, RYUYTEL SEE OFF DELEGATION TO BAGHDAD

LD080818 Moscow TASS in English 0800 GMT 8 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 8 TASS -- Today a Soviet state delegation led by Petr Demichev, alternate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first vice president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, departed from Moscow for Baghdad to participate in the celebration of the 15th anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the USSR and the Iraqi Republic.

The delegation includes Vladimir Pavlov, USSR deputy minister of foreign trade, and Yevgeniy Osadchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations.

At the airdrome the delegation was seen off by Boris Yeltsin, alternate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Moscow City Committee of the CPSU, Arnold Ryuytel, vice president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and other officials.

S.A.M. al-Faysal, ambassador of the Iraqi Republic to the Soviet Union, was also present at the airport.

LEADERS SEND TREATY ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO IRAQ

LD080919 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0842 GMT 8 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow, 8 Apr (TASS) -- The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers have sent Iraqi leader Saddam Husayn a greetings telegram in connection with the 15th anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the USSR and the Iraqi Republic. The telegram notes the steady expansion of Soviet-Iraqi cooperation in various areas and, first and foremost, in the cause of developing and strengthening the key branches of the Iraqi economy -- the oil and power industries. The telegram expresses confidence that the treaty will continue to serve reliably the tasks of strengthening the friendship and fruitful cooperation between the USSR and the Iraqi Republic, facilitating the efforts to eliminate the hotbeds of tension and to improve the situation in the Near and Middle East and in the world as a whole.

ANNIVERSARY OF NUMAYRI'S OUSTER OBSERVED IN SUDAN

LD061847 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 6 Apr 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast; Leonid Rassadin video report from Sudan]

[Text] On 6 April the people of Sudan are marking the second anniversary of the overthrow of the despotic Numayri regime.

[Rassadin] The last 2 years have not been easy for the Sudanese people. But the main thing is that a start -- an important start-- has been made to overcome the terrible consequences of the almost 16-year dictatorship in this very large African country.

And yet a multitude of very complicated problems remain. The very severe legacy, which has been inherited by the Sudanese from the previous rotten Numayri regime, is being felt, including in the economy.

Having visited Khartoum University we also became convinced that a persistent struggle for the minds of people is continuing in Sudan. Wall newspapers and posters of dozens of political and religious groups, parties and organizations, have been put up everywhere. There is a wide variety of slogans. In some the undertakings of the country's new leadership are supported; there is perhaps a majority of those. In others, especially the Islamic ones, that policy is subjected to criticism.

Here in Khartoum we are talking to Sudan's Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi:

[Begin Al-Mahdi recording in Arabic with superimposed Russian translation by Rassadin] We are paying special attention to the question of restoring democratic life in the country, in place of the reactionary legislation which existed before, and a number of new, just laws are being adopted.

Fundamental changes have taken place in Sudan's foreign policy course. We are striving to construct our policy in relation to other states on the principles of nonalignment, on the basis of good neighborliness. Sudan welcomes the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union, aimed at the creation of an all-embracing system of international security, at disarmament, and the prevention of nuclear militarization of space. We should like the great Soviet Union to continue to play an important role in a peaceful settlement in the Near East, and in the Horn of Africa; in the settlement of regional conflicts.

In Sudan we are following the restructuring in the Soviet Union with great attention. We wish the friendly Soviet people progress and prosperity. [end recording] [Video shows Rassadin speaking to camera; street scenes, close-ups of people reading wall notices; Rassadin interviewing dark man in national dress -- no caption -- and close-up of latter speaking to camera]

COMMENTARY NOTES 'LACK OF REFORM' IN IRAN

NC021132 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Persian to Iran 1530 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The 12th of Farvardin [1 April] is Islamic Republic Day, and the 13th of Farvardin is the day on which the ancient tradition of sizdeh bedar [an outing on the 13th day of the new year to rid oneself of bad luck] is observed. The messages by the leaders of the Islamic Republic on this day focused mainly on the war and its continuation -- a war which over a period of years has inflicted great material losses and many deaths on the Iranian and Iraqi nations alike. However, on such a day, it would have been correct to submit the officials' records to the public for their opinion.

At this juncture, let us glance at the Constitution of the Islamic Republic and at the duties with which the country's leaders have been charged. Article 3 of the Constitution calls on the government to create a favorable atmosphere for the growth of moral virtues and the fight against all signs of corruption, and to employ all its resources to offer free education and physical training to everyone, in all strata; to facilitate and to provide higher education; to get rid of all traces of colonialism and prevent its spread; to root out despotism of all kinds, along with arbitrary and monopolistic intentions; to guarantee political and social freedoms; to build a correct and just economy, aimed at the promotion of welfare and the eradication of poverty.

This article of the Constitution also declares that it is the task of the government to eliminate all forms of deprivation as far as food, housing, work, health, social insurance and other issues are concerned.

Everyone remembers that on the eve of the February revolution and during the early months of this auspicious revolution, all the officials of the Islamic Republic, and especially Ayatollah Khomeyni, stated that their main task was to ensure the lost and trampled rights of the deprived workers. Ayatollah Khomeyni, indeed, declared that the hardened and calloused hands of the farmers were the real documents, not the false title deeds of the landlords. Concerning the exalted position of the worker, he said that the prophet had kissed the hands of workers. But as the press, and even some of the officials, of the Islamic Republic have admitted on several occasions, the promises about the fulfillment of the rights of millions of workers have not been kept. For example, about 2 years ago, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi said: We have 3 million square meters of cultivable land in Khuzestan, but whenever we want to reach out to touch part of it, one of the landlords with connections with the former imperial court appears and produces a document saying that the land belongs to him. On another occasion, Hojjat ol-eslam Fazel Harandi, chairman of the Agricultural Committee of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, stated in an interview with KEYHAN: About 900,000 hectares of land have been placed at the disposal of farmers for temporary cultivation on the basis of the Supreme Judicial Council's circular of 1359 [year ending 20 March 1981]. However, as I speak, some farmers are still in prison for having cultivated this very land. Some of the members of the land allocation committees have themselves been arrested.

The failure to fulfill the promises made to workers and farmers and the oppression inflicted on them have reached such a point that Ayatollah Sane'i, former public prosecutor, said that persons who actually have 4 million toman net income from one plantation, and some who have hundreds of hectares of land, want, once again -- with the help of the law -- to seize thousands of hectares from the farmers.

So far, the officials of the Islamic Republic have not responded to the just request of millions of workers that they introduce a labor law which respects their dignity, takes present world conditions into consideration, and provides for direct participation by their real representatives. These points are also stressed in the constitution.

Despite the emphasis the Constitution places on the high position of women, the officials and press of the country admit that they are being subjected to medieval laws.

But what is the reason for this? Let the columnists of the Iranian press help us answer this question. The ETTELA'AT editorial columnist says that the situation is the result of a gradual retreat, and writes: We punished the interim government for its step-by-step policy; but now some of us have adopted that same policy and we are moving step-by-step, not forward, but backward. In other words, we are retreating step by step.

As a rule, the Islamic leaders blame the war for all these gradual retreats. Actually this (?destructive) war, on the continuation of which the Islamic Republic's officials are obstinately insisting, has inflicted enormous material and moral blows on millions of Iranian workers and has created the greatest obstacles to any kind of reform. As the Iranian press itself admits, this war is exploited by a group of hoarders and profiteers on the one hand, and by the U.S. imperialists and Israeli Zionists on the other.

The Iranian people and all progressive and patriotic forces in Iran want this meaningless war to stop, both in order that all the calamities suffered by the people will be ended, and in order that no more nonsensical attempts at justification of step-by-step retreats can be made.

The 12th of Farvardin is Islamic Republic Day, and the 13th of Farvardin is the 13th day of the new solar year 1366. On this day, according to a traditional custom, the Iranians go on an outing to the green fields in order to rid themselves of bad luck. May the Iranian people obtain their wish to free themselves of bad luck and evil, and may they achieve justice, freedom, and their ideals.

COMMENTARY ON CAUSE OF TUNISIAN BREAK WITH IRAN

NC030831 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Persian to Iran 1530 GMT 2 Apr 87

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Tunisia has severed its diplomatic relations with Iran. In explaining this move, a Tunisian Government spokesman said that the Iranian regime has interfered in his country's domestic affairs. He stated that Iranian diplomats actively provoke fanatical religious groups involved in subversion in Tunisia, under the mask of Islamic slogans.

Observers note that this interference is behind Iran's severed or deteriorating diplomatic relations with a number of countries to date. Among these countries are Afghanistan, Lebanon, Senegal, and Persian Gulf Arab states.

Fanatical armed religious fundamentalist groups are prepared on Iranian territory and sent into democratic Afghanistan.

In Lebanon the pro-Iranian Shi'ite group is impeding national unity to the detriment of the struggle against Israeli aggression in the country. The attack by some Iranian officials on Kemal Ataturk, leader of the Turkish nation and the founder of the Turkish Republic, has led to broad aversion and protests in Turkey.

Such actions are seen everywhere as examples of the objectives of specific circles in Iran to impose the pattern of Iran's Islamic society on those countries. It is interesting to note that they want to exploit the growth of liberation movements under Islamic slogans in Africa and Asia for their own objectives.

It is not accidental that Morteza Sarmadi, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman, reacted to Tunisia's decision with the following question: Was Numayri, Sudan's dictator, able to prevent the Islamic movement by severing relations with Iran? This question is, to a great extent, surprising. Incidentally, Numayri tried to use Islam to consolidate his rule. During his rule the so-called Islamization of various aspects of Sudanese society was implemented. In the struggles against opponents of his reactionary policy, which was implemented under the mask of Islamization, he resorted to the most pitiless suppressive methods, such as severing hands, stoning, and other forms of medieval terror. But all this could not prevent his downfall. The Sudanese people foiled all his efforts to exploit religion for reactionary objectives.

The Iranian circles who claim to hold in their hands the fate of the Islamic world portray themselves as defenders of the deprived and mentors of progress. Counting on a lack of information among the foreign public, they throw their loyalty to the ideas of the anti-imperialist and antimonarchical 1979 revolution in the face of others. But not all the people are uninformed. Many know that these ideas have not come to fruition. The revelation of secret contacts between some Iranian officials, the Reagan administration, and the Israeli Zionists has not been kept from the people of Asia and Africa. And all of this, of course, does not gain popularity for the example of Iran's Islamic society.

However, the issue is not limited to this. Any revolution, including a revolution in Islamic countries, is the result of the domestic conditions within the country involved. A revolution cannot be exported or prevented. Efforts to impose an alien example of government structure on an independent country are short-sighted. For example, it is clear that the elements that paved the way for the transition of political role into the hands of the Iranian clerics cannot be seen as inevitably leading to the same results in other Islamic countries, and certainly not in non-Islamic countries. Those circles in Iran who are indifferent to this reality only exacerbate their country's international situation. Their attempts give imperialism the opportunity to exploit the so-called threat from Iran for their self-seeking political objectives.

FURTHER ON GROMYKO TALKS WITH MOZAMBIQUE VISITORS

PM061109 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Apr 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Visitors From Mozambique in The Kremlin"]

[Text] On 1 April A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received in the Kremlin a party and state delegation from the People's Republic of Mozambique headed by Jorge Rebelo, member of the Mozambique Liberation Front (Frelimo) Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the Frelimo Central Committee. The delegation has come to the Soviet Union in connection with the celebrations to mark the 10th anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the USSR and Mozambique.

During the conversation, which took place in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding typical of relations between the parties, governments, and peoples of the two countries, there was a discussion of questions of Soviet-Mozambican bilateral cooperation. There was also an exchange of opinions on certain problems of the present-day situation in the world, above all in southern Africa.

Both sides noted that the past decade has emphatically demonstrated that the Soviet-Mozambican treaty is a sure foundation for multifaceted ties and fruitful cooperation between the two countries in all manner of areas.

Both sides expressed their dedication to the goals of the treaty. Its very conclusion between states which are separated by distance of several thousand kilometers indicates that both countries have interests to which no distance can be an obstacle if they both sincerely seek cooperation and friendship on an honest basis and pursue a policy of peace.

The decade since the conclusion of the treaty has been a fine test of strength for good Soviet-Mozambican relations.

The Soviet side expressed satisfaction at the Mozambican side's statement that USSR policy vis-a-vis southern Africa is contributing to the consolidation of everything positive and healthy that is taking place in that area. As soon as the banner of independence was raised above the African countries the Soviet Union declared its solidarity with these young states.

And today the Soviet socialist power is resolutely supporting the African peoples in their struggle against neocolonialism and against the odious apartheid regime in South Africa -- a regime stigmatized by all honest people in the world.

Both sides expressed the belief that questions pertaining to the internal development of any state in Africa, indeed of any other state, must be dealt with by the people of that country. No one outside has the right to impose a social system on other peoples. The Soviet Union and Mozambique adhere to this political course, which is fully in line with UN principles.

J. Rebelo dwelt on the struggle the Mozambicans are waging under Frelimo's leadership, using weapons to defend the independence and sovereignty of their homeland against the aggressive intrigues of imperialism, racism, and reaction. The Mozambican side stressed the great community of interests with the People's Republic of Angola which is also the object of imperialist intrigues.

Both sides stressed the need for cooperation with all the states of the world in the struggle to prevent a nuclear war.

On behalf of the country's leadership the Mozambican delegation expressed full support for the Soviet proposals on foreign policy matters, above all the proposals on eliminating nuclear weapons before the end of the present century and on preventing the militarization of space, set out in the relevant statements by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev.

On behalf of the Soviet leadership, A.A. Gromyko expressed appreciation for Mozambique's support for the USSR's efforts in the struggle for disarmament and for peace between peoples.

The attention of the Mozambican delegation was drawn to the enormous effort the Soviet people are making under the leadership of Lenin's party to restructure the country's economic and social life in order to exploit socialism's mighty potential in the course of future development.

The Mozambican side wished the Soviet people and the CPSU the greatest success in tackling the great and noble tasks they have set themselves.

On behalf of his country's leadership and people, J. Rebelo declared his deep gratitude to the CPSU, the Soviet Government, and the people of the USSR for the multifaceted, selfless assistance the Soviet Union is constantly giving to Mozambique.

Both sides spoke of the need to do everything possible to further develop and enrich bilateral Soviet-Mozambican relations, including those in the economic and trade sphere.

J. Rebelo gave A.A. Gromyko a message from Joaquim Alberto Chissano, chairman of Frelimo and president of Mozambique, to CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev.

The Mozambican party and state delegation headed by J. Rebelo, Politburo member and secretary of the Frelimo Central Committee, left Moscow on 2 April. It was in our country to attend the celebrations in aid of the 10th anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the USSR and Mozambique.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by A.F. Ryuytel, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; G.M. Korniyenko, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Section; and other officials.

The Mozambican Ambassador to the USSR (G.R.G. Sengu) was also there to see him off.

SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION STOPS OVER IN KENYA

PM061029 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading: "Official Reports"]

[Text] Nairobi, 3 Apr -- The group of USSR supreme Soviet deputies headed by P.G. Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which is stopping over here, met yesterday with F. Mati, speaker of the Kenyan National Assembly.

During the talk which took place there was an examination of the state and prospects for the development of interparliamentary relations between the USSR and Kenya. There was also a discussion of questions of relations between the two countries and a number of international problems.

MAURITIAN PREMIER A. JUGNAUTH INTERVIEWED

PM261505 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Appeal For Cooperation" under rubric "Facts, Events, Opinions"]

[Text] Port Louis, 20 Mar -- For the Mauritian people and government, the USSR is a friendly state, Mauritian Prime Minister Aneerood Jugnauth said here in an interview with our TASS special correspondent.

A whole series of agreements which we have signed on cooperation have brought positive results. The head of the government noted the broad possibilities for further developing bilateral relations in trade, education, sport, culture, and other spheres.

The Mauritian Government, he stressed, supports every initiative that can help to strengthen peace throughout the world. Disarmament is the key issue today. It can create favorable conditions for dialogue aimed at ensuring peace and settling international conflicts. We will approve any initiative capable of freeing our planet of the threat of a third world war, which would definitely be fatal for mankind. The program to completely free mankind from nuclear weapons by 2000 is concerned with these initiatives.

Mauritius is also decidedly in favor of the UN declaration supported by the nonaligned movement on declaring the Indian Ocean a peace zone, A. Jugnauth pointed out. In accordance with this document we are doing everything possible to organize the International Conference on the Indian Ocean which it is planned to hold in Sri Lanka in 1988. Mauritius appeals to all neighboring states to cooperate in supporting this plan. At all international forums we take an inexorable stand with regard to the return to Mauritius of the Chagos Archipelago, where there is a foreign military base on the island of Diego Garcia.

PRESIDIUM GREETES MAURITIAN GOVERNOR ON ANNIVERSARY

PM061233 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Telegrams Exchanged"]

[Text] On the national holiday of Mauritius -- the 19th anniversary of the proclamation of independence -- the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent V. Ringadoo, governor general of Mauritius, a telegram of congratulations expressing confidence that Soviet-Mauritian relations will be further developed in the interests of both countries' peoples and for the sake of strengthening peace and international security.

In his reply telegram V. Ringadoo shared the desire to strengthen the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Mauritius.

3D ROUND OF ETHIOPIA-SOMALIA TALKS UNDER WAY

EA031016 Moscow International Service in Amharic 1530 GMT 2 Apr 87

[From the "Africa as We See It" program]

[Text] It is reported that the third round of talks between Ethiopia and Somalia on improving relations is in progress in Addis Ababa. At the opening of the talks, the Ethiopian foreign Minister, Comrade Berhanu Bayeh, and his Somali counterpart Abduraham Jama Barre, expressed the wish to resolve the conflict in the Horn of Africa and bring about good-neighborliness and cooperation.

The human and material destruction caused by the conflict between Ethiopia and Somalia is very well known and is the result of the nature of the borders drawn by the colonialists when they left Africa. After years of tension between the two countries, there is now some hope for stability in the Horn of Africa.

The process leading to these talks began when the Ethiopian leader, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, and Somali President Mohamad Siad Barre met and held talks in Djibouti in January last year. Subsequent meetings of the foreign ministers of the two countries were held, first in Addis Ababa and next in Mogadishu. Now the third round of talks has started.

What the last talks showed is that attempts by U.S.-led international imperialism to sabotage Africa's unity and prevent the continent from living in good-neighborliness will never succeed and that countries are prepared to solve their own problems. To a large extent, the tension in the Horn of Africa region has been increased at the level of international politics. Africa does not need conflicts or stockpiles of weapons, and that includes Somalia. In his speech to the International Seminar for Peace and Development, held in Addis Ababa on 7 June 1986, the Ethiopian leader Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam said that mankind's struggle for peace is inseparable from his struggle for security and social development and that there is no progress without peace. This sentiment is also enshrined in the Constitution of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (PDRE) which was recently approved by referendum. The 28th article says that the PDRE's foreign policy will be based on the guidelines of proletarian internationalism, peaceful coexistence and nonalignment. According to the document, Ethiopia will pursue a policy of good-neighborliness, mutual respect for territorial integrity, noninterference in the internal affairs of other states, finding peaceful solutions to conflicts and nonalignment.

The peace talks which started in Ethiopia and Somalia on 1 April 1987 are a goodwill gesture to bring about peace, stability, and cooperation in the Horn of Africa in conformity with the guidelines of the Nonaligned Movement.

LEADERSHIP GREETES ETHIOPIA'S MENGISTU ON JUBILEE

PM071407 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Apr 87 First Edition p 1

[National Day greetings to Ethiopia's Mengistu]

[Text] To Comrade Haile Marian Mengistu, general secretary of the Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee and chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Socialist Ethiopia:

The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers send you, Comrade Mengistu, the WPE Central Committee, the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Socialist Ethiopia, and the entire Ethiopian people cordial comradesly congratulations on Victory Day -- your national holiday.

The courageous, freedom-loving Ethiopian people, who defended their motherland's independence in the fight against facism, know well the price of peace. Today Socialist Ethiopia is making an important contribution to consolidating the forces working to deliver mankind from the threat of war, to create an all-embracing system of international security, to establish a nuclear-free and nonviolent world, and to eliminate the vestiges of colonialism and racism on the African continent.

Under the WPE's leadership the country is pursuing a course of establishing principles of social justice and rule by the people within a unified multinational state. The adoption of revolutionary Ethiopia's first constitution and the preparation to declare a People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia are important milestones along this route.

True to the ideals of the Great October Revolution, whose 70th anniversary is being celebrated by progressive mankind this year, the Soviet Union intends to continue extending all-around support to the Ethiopian revolution and developing relations with friendly Ethiopia in all areas to the benefit of the peoples of our countries and in the interests of world peace, freedom and progress.

We wish the WPE Central Committee, the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia, and the Government of Socialist Ethiopia success in implementing the creative plans outlined by the party and happiness, prosperity, and peace to the fraternal Ethiopian people.

The CPSU Central Committee

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

The USSR Council of Ministers

VOSKANYAN ENDS PERU VISIT, ARRIVES IN CUBA

PM071655 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS reports: "Interparliamentary Ties"]

[Text] Lima, 4 Apr -- The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by G.M. Voskanyan, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which is in Peru on an official friendly visit, has attended a regular session of the republic's congress which has opened here.

The head of the Soviet delegation spoke about the restructuring process under way in the Soviet Union and about the USSR's efforts to ensure international security, including the Soviet state's latest peace initiatives. He noted that Soviet people view the hardworking people of Peru with great respect and liking. Relations with this country are built on the principles of equality, mutual respect, and noninterference in internal affairs. A shared desire for peace and the development of mutually advantageous cooperation unite the Soviet Union and Peru.

In their speeches Peruvian senators and deputies from all political parties expressed support for the Soviet Union's struggle to eliminate the threat of nuclear war, end the arms race, prevent it spreading into space, halt nuclear weapons tests, and establish a just international economic order. They denounced the aggressive U.S. actions against Nicaragua and the blackmail and threats against other Latin American countries.

The Soviet delegation met members of the Chamber of Deputies Foreign Affairs Commission and the Commission for Interparliamentary Ties of both chambers of the Congress. Luis Negeiros, chairman of the commission and general secretary of Peru's ruling APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] Party, expressed confidence that the visit of the Soviet delegation would serve the further development of cooperation between the two countries.

During the visit to the Congress a decision was adopted to set up an interchamber, multiparty Soviet-Peruvian friendship group in the parliament.

Today the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation left Peru.

Havana, 4 Apr -- Today the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation arrived in the Cuban capital at the invitation of the Cuban National Assembly of the People's Government. The delegation was met at Jose Marti Airport by Severo Aguirre del Cristo, vice president of the National Assembly of the People's Government, and other officials.

Meets Cuba's Aguirre

PM071059 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Stay in Cuba"]

[Text] Havana, 5 Apr -- Severo del Cristo Aguirre, vice president of the National Assembly of the People's Government of Cuba, has received a delegation from the USSR Supreme Soviet headed by G.M. Voskanyan, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which is staying here.

During the talk, which took place in a warm, cordial atmosphere, the head of the Soviet delegation dwelled in detail on the course of the fulfillment of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum and described the process of restructuring, which has encompassed all spheres of life of Soviet society, and the activity of the USSR Supreme Soviet. He paid special attention to the Soviet Government's peace-loving foreign policy initiatives, which are enjoying growing support in the world.

S. del Cristo Aguirre described the course of socialist building in Cuba, the main avenues of the Cuban Parliament's activity, and the measures which the country's leadership is taking to strengthen the gains of the Cuban revolution. The Soviet guests received with great interest his description of the development in Cuba of the process of rectifying errors which have been made and eliminating negative tendencies which have been revealed. Our people believe in the revolution, S. del Cristo Aguirre stressed. He noted in this connection that the Cuban working people are expressing sincere thanks to the socialist community, and above all the Soviet Union, for their selfless fraternal cooperation.

PRAVDA SUMMARIZES CHEBRIKOV'S CUBA VISIT

PM071559 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Apr 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Visit Ends"]

[Text] Havana, 4 Apr -- The official friendly visit to Cuba by V.M. Chebrikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR KGB, has ended. He was here at the invitation of the Communist Party of Cuba (PCC) and the republic's government.

During the visit he had meetings with Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the republic's Councils of State and Ministers. Questions of mutual interest were discussed. There were also meetings and conversations with Army General Raul Castro, member of the PCC Central Committee Politburo, second secretary of the PCC Central Committee, first vice president of the republic's Councils of State and Ministers, and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, and other Cuban leaders.

During his stay in Cuba V.M. Chebrikov visited the republic's Interior Ministry where he had talks with Jose Abrantes, member of the PCC Central Committee and minister of the interior. At the talks there was a discussion of questions of further strengthening cooperation between the USSR State Security Committee and the Cuban Interior Ministry in the interests of safeguarding the two countries' security.

The sides expressed the firm conviction that the visit would serve to further develop Soviet-Cuban relations and strengthen the friendship between the Cuban and Soviet peoples, and would contribute to solving the tasks of socialist building.

V.M. Chebrikov left for home today. At Jose Marti International Airport he was seen off by R. Castro, J. Abrantes, and other officials.

USSR Ambassador to Cuba A.S. Kapto was also there to see him off.

FROLOV DELEGATION RETURNS FROM MEXICO

PM071401 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Apr 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation's Return"]

[Text] The CPSU delegation headed by I.T. Frolov, chief editor of the journal KOMMUNIST, which took part in the work of the Third Unified Socialist Party of Mexico Congress, returned to Moscow 3 April.

MOSCOW CONTRASTS APPROACHES TO CENTRAL AMERICA

LD311055 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Vyacheslav Lavrentyev commentary]

[Text] I will quote two reports about Central America. One of them says that talks have ended in Managua between Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo and the Nicaraguan leaders. They talked about looking for new approaches to a peaceful settlement of regional problems. In the other report the United States has announced that it will soon be staging major military maneuvers with Honduras on that country's territory. More than 50,000 U.S. troops will be helping the Hondurans to beat off what is supposed to be an attack from Nicaragua. That is the provocative way in which the aim of the maneuvers has been formulated by the Pentagon.

As we can see, the two approaches are obvious: The first leads toward peace, the second toward preparations for aggression and for war. If one looks at the countries of Central America, then in terms of common sense. They all have a need for peace. There are so many unresolved social and other problems there that it is simply absurd for these countries to waste their meager resources on preparations for war. Nevertheless, not counting revolutionary Nicaragua, which is the victim of U.S. aggression, it is extremely difficult for these countries even to adopt a neutral position like that of Guatemala. All the Costa Rican Government had to do was to propose its own version of a peace settlement in the region -- to be frank, incomplete and unbalanced proposals, but aimed at achieving peace, all the same -- for a cry to be heard from Washington. They threatened to deprive the Costa Ricans of their U.S. economic and military aid, and to shut off access for the country's goods to the U.S. market. A special emissary from President Reagan even visited San Jose to this end. In Honduras the United States prefers to deal only with the military, because the country's population opposes the presence of U.S. troops there.

The U.S. Administration does not tire of repeating that it interferes in the affairs of Central America for the sake of the security of the peoples there. When you look closer, it turns out they are moved by the same old imperial interests. It is for the sake of these that the peoples of a whole region are forced to live in an atmosphere of constant uncertainty and fear. As Borge, one of the leaders of the Sandinist revolution, said: We have never been as close to peace as we are now, and we have never been so close to war.

PRESIDIUM DEBATES RAILROADS, PROSECUTION SERVICE

PM071011 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium"]

[Text] A session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium was held in the Kremlin on 27 March under the chairmanship of A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

It examined the question of the USSR Ministry of Railways' work in improving the organization of passenger transportation, improving safety, and raising the standard of passenger service. The report was delivered by USSR Railways Minister N.S. Konarev. A report was also delivered on behalf of the USSR Supreme Soviet chamber transport and communications commissions, which have investigated the state of affairs in rail transport in a number of the country's republics and oblasts, by Deputy V.P. Mysnichenko.

The following spoke on the question under discussion: B.N. Yeltsin, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and first secretary of Moscow party gorkom; Academician N.G. Basov, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; A.A. Reut, first deputy chairman of the USSR Gosplan; and V.A. Brezhnev, USSR minister of transport construction.

The resolution adopted on this question will be published in the press.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium then examined the question of progress in carrying out the USSR Supreme Soviet Resolution dated 3 July 1985 "On the USSR Prosecutor General's Report on the Activity of the USSR Prosecutor's Office in Overseeing the Execution of the Requirements of Soviet Laws on Strengthening Law and Order and Protecting Citizens' Rights and Lawful Interests." A report was heard from USSR Prosecutor General A.M. Rekunkov. The following spoke in the debate: V.S. Shevchenko, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; G.S. Tarazevich, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; N.A. Zlobin, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and leader of a composite team at the "Zelenogradstroy" Association; and S.I. Gusev, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Court.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium noted that the prosecution service organs have recently stepped up their activity in supervising the execution of laws and begun to defend the interests of state and society and the rights of citizens more resolutely and to rely more on labor collectives to prevent violations of legality and law and order. However, in conditions of developing and deepening socialist democracy and strengthening legality and law and order, the prosecution service organs' activity still does not meet modern requirements.

The force of the law is being poorly used in strengthening plan and contract discipline and preventing the production of substandard goods, and instances of encroachment on citizens' labor, housing, and other rights have not been eradicated. The prosecution service organs are not collaborating sufficiently with soviets and law-enforcement agencies to detect and eradicate negative phenomena such as drunkenness, drug addiction, and unearned income. Soviets' attention was drawn to the need to take appropriate measures to strengthen legality and the law and order and defend citizens' rights.

The USSR Prosecutor's Office and prosecution service organs at local level are instructed to focus their efforts on practical implementation of the 27th party congress guidelines and CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum decisions on questions of further strengthening socialist legality and increasing openness and to adopt additional measures to fulfill USSR Supreme Soviet resolutions.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium examined certain other questions of the country's state life.

Comrades V.V. Shcherbitskiy, P.N. Demichev, and N.N. Slyunkov took part in the discussion of agenda items.

RAILROAD MINISTRY 'NOT MEETING DEMANDS'

PM071501 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Apr 87 Morning Edition pp 1-2

[Unattributed report: "In the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. On the Work of the USSR Ministry of Railways to Improve the Organization of Passenger Transportation and Enhance Traffic Safety and Standards of Passenger Service"]

[Text] As already reported, a session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium discussed the question of work by the USSR Ministry of Railways to improve the organization of passenger transportation and enhance traffic safety and standards of passenger service. The resolution which was adopted notes that, alongside the considerable work being done in railroad transportation to solve national economic tasks, the state of passenger transportation, which is of great social importance, remains unsatisfactory. This problem has become particularly acute on suburban lines at times of mass passenger transportation and also on holidays and pre-holiday days.

The ministry is not taking the necessary measures to meet the 27th CPSU Congress demands regarding the proper and complete satisfaction of the population's transportation needs and to enhance traffic safety and standards of passenger service. The positive experience of solving individual questions of passenger transport operations accumulated by the Belorussian, Baltic, East Siberian, Krasnoyarsk, and some other railroads is being inadequately disseminated within the sector.

The speed of passenger and suburban trains has declined in the last 10 years. The pool of passenger cars and electric trains is largely obsolete and worn-out. Insufficient use is made of the potential of the new economic management conditions and collective forms of labor organization. The ministry has no long-term program for improving passenger transportation and enhancing the standard of passenger service.

Delays to trains, which have become systematic, inflict great damage to the economy and the population. This gives rise to numerous complaints to the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, other central organs, and the mass news media. In 1986 10 percent of long-distance trains arrived at their destination with an average delay of almost 1 hour. Moreover, the pernicious practice whereby officials cover up train delays and falsify the state reports is widespread.

Passengers make justified complaints regarding the poor standard of service. They experience great difficulties in purchasing tickets. At the same time, as a result of shortcomings in the organization of ticket sales and the counting of free seats, many trains set off without a full passenger complement and conditions for abuses are created. [paragraph continues]

Inspections on trains reveal considerable numbers of passengers traveling without tickets.

The railroads frequently fail to observe requirements regarding preparing and maintaining cars in proper condition for trips. Cars with defective heating and water supply systems or sanitary-technical equipment are frequently coupled to passenger trains. There have been instances when temperature in passenger and suburban train cars has dropped below zero.

The volume of paid services supplied to passengers en route is extremely small. Many long-distance trains are not supplied with the proper quantities of bedding, newspapers, journals, and cultural and everyday requisits. The shortcomings existing in the organization of catering for passengers are being eliminated only slowly. The variety of dishes remains limited and the quality of their preparation is poor, as in the past. There are numerous instances of violations of trading rules.

The organization of services at stations fails to meet the demands of the time. Many stations are in a state of neglect and fail to provide elementary comforts for passengers. The work of inquiry and information services is poorly organized. There is a shortage of luggage storage facilities. The automatic luggage storage lockers do not guarantee the safety of passengers' property, and the administration bears no material responsibility for its loss.

The ministry has allowed a serious lag to develop in the reconstruction and building of passenger services projects. The funds allocated for this purpose are not being utilized. The measures being taken to improve the condition of industrial and passenger stations, to consolidate the maintenance base, and to improve the quality of maintenance work are inadequate.

The sector makes inefficient use of the existing scientific potential. The level of development of passenger railroad transportation lags unjustifiably behind the achievements of science, technology, and advanced experience. There has been no development of high-speed passenger traffic. Fundamentally new automated systems for traffic control and ticket sales and other achievements of science and technology are being introduced too slowly.

One of the tightest bottlenecks in the activity of the USSR Ministry of Railways and of railroad managements is the selection, training, and education of cadres directly responsible for passenger transportation. The demands made on them and the monitoring of their work are inadequate. There is no principled evaluation of breaches of labor and technological discipline or laxity in the performance of official duties in passenger services.

The ministry's enterprises and organizations are slow to improve their collaboration with soviets of people's deputies to improve transportation services for the population, especially on suburban lines, and in the solution of social problems.

The USSR Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building, the USSR Ministry of Electrical Engineering Industry, the USSR Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems, and the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy fail to satisfy railroad transport's needs for electric trains, cars, track, equipment, other technical means, and spare parts, and are slow to raise the technical standards of the output produced. The USSR Ministry of Transport construction fails to commission passenger services projects on time.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has ordered the USSR Ministry of Railways, guided by the decisions of the 27th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum, to organize its activity so as to ensure the elimination of the shortcomings mentioned in this resolution. Priority must be given to qualitative indicators of passenger transportation when evaluating the production activity of railroads and sections or summing up the results of socialist competition. It is necessary to aim to adhere to passenger and suburban train timetables, increase the volume and types of services offered, and improve the standards of service. Workers must be held strictly accountable for the fulfillment of all demands regarding train traffic safety, the standards of preparations of trains for travel, and their sanitary condition, and creating the necessary comforts for passenger travel. Consistent work must be done to increase the number of Pullman expresses.

Particular attention must be given to the selection, training, retraining, and education of passenger transport cadres, the improvement of collective forms of labor organization and incentives, and the development of democratic principles in labor collectives' work. The ministry, with participation by the Railroad Transport and Transport Construction Workers' Union, must be more persistent in solving problems concerning the improvement of the labor and daily life of the sector's workers. Making use of advanced experience, labor collectives must be oriented toward enhancing work efficiency and building up social development funds to provide working people with housing, childrens preschool and medical institutions, and cultural and consumer services facilities.

The fundamental improvement of passenger services must become one of the most important areas of work for the USSR Ministry of Railways. The aim must be to accelerate the restructuring of work to organize passenger transportation on the basis of advanced experience and the achievements of scientific and technical progress, the improvement of the economic machinery, and the utilization of intensive factors and economic methods of management.

Proper order must be introduced in the organization of ticket sales, especially at times of peak vacation travel. The introduction of new and convenient forms of ticket sales must be expanded. The creation of a uniform union-wide automated system of ticket sales management must be accelerated, as must the improvement of the inquiries and information service. The work of storage facilities must be improved.

Energetic efforts must be channeled into raising the organizational standard of passenger trade services and catering in railroad transportation and improving the quality of services offered.

The USSR Ministry of Railways must consistently solve the questions of strengthening the material and technical base of passenger services, bringing it in line with modern scientific and technical demands, and increasing local revenues and utilizing the approved proportion of such revenues for these purposes. The USSR Ministry of Transport Construction and other ministries carrying out the construction of railroad passenger transport projects must eliminate the laggardness that has emerged in the fulfillment of plan targets for the reconstruction and building of stations, halts, and other passenger services projects, and must complete their construction within the normative timescale.

The USSR Ministry of Heavy Transport Machine Building, the USSR Ministry of Electrical Engineering Industry, the USSR Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems, and the USSR Ministry of Ferrous metallurgy have been instructed to ensure that railroad transport is promptly supplied with the set quantities of electric trains, passenger cars, equipment, and track, and to enhance their quality, technical standards, reliability, and durability. [paragraph continues]

The requirements of the USSR Ministry of Railways for spare parts, instrumentation, and diagnostic instruments must be more fully satisfied.

The USSR Ministry of Railways, the USSR MVD, and the USSR Prosecutor's Office have been alerted to the need to resolutely improve the maintenance of public order on railroad transport and to focus their attention mainly on preventing breaches of the law and eradicating bribery, embezzlement, speculation, and other antisocial manifestations.

Union and autonomous republic supreme soviet presidiums and local soviets of people's deputies have been ordered to step up their monitoring of work to improve the standards of passenger services for the population. More attention must be given to strengthening the material and technical base of passenger transportation; improving trade, consumer service, medical, and other facilities for citizens at stations and halts and on trains; solving the social problems of the sector's workers; and promptly fulfilling voters' instructions on this account.

It has been deemed advisable to send the present resolution and commission materials to the USSR Council of Ministers so the necessary measures can be taken.

RAZUMOVSKIY REPORT AT PARTY TRAINING CONFERENCE

LD032335 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 3 Apr 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A conference was held today at the CPSU Central Committee which discussed matters of training and retraining party, local soviet, and ideological cadres.

Taking part in the work of the conference were secretaries of union republic communist party central committees, party kraykoms and obkoms, leaders of higher party educational establishments and courses, heads of faculties, press workers, and representatives of certain ministries and departments. The conference was opened by Comrade Zaykov. A report was delivered by Comrade Razumovskiy.

Taking part in the discussion were comrade Bartoshevich, secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee; Comrade (Selkova), secretary of the Krasnoyarsk Party Kraykom; Comrade (Rodnikov), head of courses at the Penza CPSU Obkom; and other comrades. They stressed that the whole system of training and retraining cadres should become an effective tool for the party in educating a new type of leading workers who are capable of successfully leading the restructuring and achieving real results in accelerating the country's social and economic development.

Also taking part in the conference were Comrade Grigoryev and Sklyarov, heads of CPSU Central Committee departments; Comrade Kruchina, administrator of affairs of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Lizichev, head of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy; and senior workers of the CPSU Central Committee.

A report on the work of the conference is to be published in the press.

LATVIAN PLENUM ON CPSU DECISIONS, ELECTS OFFICIALS

PMO31555 Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 22 Mar 87 p 1

[LATINFORM report: "Information Report on the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] A Latvian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum was held in Riga on 21 March 1987. The plenum's discussion was "On the Republic Party Organization's Tasks in Deepening Restructuring and Improving Work With Cadres in Line With the Decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum and CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev's Recommendations During His Stay in Latvia and Estonia."

Latvian Communist Party Central Committee First Secretary B.K. Pugo delivered a report.

Contributions were made to the debate on the report by V.K. Avots, first secretary of Dobelskiy party raykom; K.I. Nyuksha, fitter at the "Rizhskiy Elektromashinostroitelnyy Zavod" Production Association; A.P. Kalutsen, first secretary of Riga Party Gorkom; D.O. Ozola, board chairman of the "Spars" Kolkhoz in Gulbenskiy Rayon; Ya.Ya. Vagris, chairman of the Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; A.K. Chepanis, first secretary of Liyepayskiy party Raykom; L.M. Kalinina, teacher at the Zenta Ozols secondary school No 5 in Riga; Yu.Ya. Ruben, chairman of the Latvian SSR Council of Ministers; F.F. Stroganov, first secretary of Ludzenskiy Party Raykom; A.V. Gorbunov, secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee; R.P. Volyatovskaya, marker at the "Latviya" sewn goods production association in Riga; T.L. Dushkevich, first secretary of Daugavpils Party Gorkom; I.F. Strautinsh, chairman of the Latvian Republic Union of Consumer Societies; A.Ya. Shtale, calf attendant at the "Viyetalva" Sovkhoz in Stuchkinskiy Rayon; R.N. Bondareva, first secretary of Valkskiy Party Raykom; V.E. Liyegis, drill operator at the "Liyepaymash" plant; G.V. Bagnovets, chief of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee Construction and Municipal Services Section; Ya.S. Barkan, Latvian SSR minister of culture; L.Ya. Zile, director of the Institute of History at the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee; O.D. Potreki, party committee secretary at the Latvian State University named for P. Stuchka, and Yu.N. Dmitriyev, first secretary of Kraslavskiy Party Raykom.

The plenum adopted a detailed resolution on the matter under discussion. The plenum wholly and completely approved the results of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum and the party Central Committee's practical activity in implementing the political strategy of the 27th CPSU Congress. It was stressed that at the present stage of socioeconomic development the republic party organization has the very important task of actually implementing the measures outlined by the CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the recommendations made by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev during his stay in Latvia and Estonia on further deepening restructuring, comprehensively developing socialist democracy, and overhauling cadre policy.

Party gorkoms and raykoms and primary party organizations are instructed to thoroughly and self-critically analyze the progress in restructuring, achieve increased effort in all its areas, and outline and implement measures to actually improve the work of every party organization and every labor collective. Communists and nonparty people must take an active part in the discussion of the CPSU Central Committee Plenum results, the implementation of its decisions, and the mobilization of all working people to sustained, intensive, and selfless work.

The Latvian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum expressed confidence that party organizations, communists, and all working people in the republic, inspired by the CPSU Central Committee Appeal to the Soviet People, will make their contribution to accelerating the restructuring of socioeconomic development and improving cadre policy, will fittingly greet the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, and will cope successfully with the plans and socialist pledges for the year and the 5-year plan as a whole.

Latvian Communist Party Central Committee First Secretary B.K. Pugo made the closing speech.

The plenum examined an account of "The Work of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau and Secretariat in the Period Since the 24th Latvian Communist Party Congress."

The plenum considered some organizational matters.

The plenum elected V.I. Grishin, commander of the Red Banner Baltic Military District, a member of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau. The plenum relieved A.V. Betekhtin of membership of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau in connection with his transfer to other work outside the republic.

The plenum promoted O.G. Misurkin, deputy chairman of the Latvian SSR Council of Ministers, from candidate to full member of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee.

Ye.N. Trofimov, sector chief at the CPSU Central Committee Organizational Party Work Department, and A.S. Lagno, instructor at the CPSU Central Committee Organizational Party Work Department, participated in the plenum's work.

UZBEK CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM REVIEWS CRITICISM

PMO61356 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Apr 87 First Edition p 2

[PRAVDA correspondent V. Artemenko report under the rubric "Communists Discuss the Decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum": "Uzbekistan: Turning Point"]

[Text] Tashkent — At the 27th CPSU Congress the Uzbek Communist Party was severely criticized for serious flaws in its work. At the Central Committee January Plenum the republic was again mentioned among those regions where negative processes associated with the degeneration and demoralization of cadres and violations of the socialist rule of law were manifested in their ugliest forms. This is a severe, but fair assessment, the participants in the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee Plenum stated. It requires the republic's communists to take resolute steps to eradicate negative phenomena and the factors which cause them.

Efforts and Results [subhead]

The shortcomings uncovered are being openly criticized in the republic. A struggle has been launched to improve the situation. It is yielding its first results. Certain positive changes can be perceived in production and social life, in the party organizations' organizational and political work, and in people's consciousness.

At the same time, an objective and exacting analysis of what has been done shows changes for the better are taking place extremely slowly in the republic, I. Usmanhodzhayev, first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee, said in his report. The restructuring proved more complex and the roots of the accumulated problems deeper than had formerly been imagined.

It was noted at the plenum that party committees have by no means everywhere managed to break through the inertia of the old approaches on the part of economic leaders, who are still oriented more toward slow, extensive growth than toward a rapid, intensive, qualitative improvement. Since the beginning of the year the plan for output sales taking account of delivery commitments was 96-percent fulfilled by the republic's industry. One in four enterprises continues to fail to meet contractual commitments. Labor productivity fell by 2.4 percent.

The restructuring is proceeding sluggishly in the sectors' headquarters, G. Kadyrov, chairman of the republic Council of Ministers, admitted self-critically. Red tape and ineffectuality is tolerated in the ministries' work. Many leaders have yet to grasp the essence of the restructuring, waste time, hold several conferences, and make plenty of decisions instead of really working. Ministers Kh. Yakubzhanova, P. Yusupov, M. Akhmedova, and O. Abbasova are failing to cope with leading their sectors.

There was also keen, principled criticism of the shortcomings in the activity of the Uzbek SSR State Agro-Industrial Committee [Gosagroprom]. Many of the sector's cadres are working in the old way, and conservatism and paper-shuffling flourish. The result: The volume of agricultural production is growing too slowly. The plenum demanded resolute actions from the collegium and from I. Dzhurabekov, chairman of the republic Gosagroprom: the more rapid introduction of intensive techniques, the team and family contract system, financial autonomy, and the more efficient utilization of land and water resources and machinery.

Helping People [subhead]

The speakers said: The conditions and moral climate must be created in every collective so the conscientious, skilled worker lives better and feels that he is an active participant in production management. The following example was cited in this connection. In the Navoiyazot Association there is a catering combine, an "Order Desk" store, a post office, and a savings bank. The canteens, kindergartens, boarding house, and pioneer camp are supplied with vegetables from the association's own subsidiary farm. Major housing construction is in progress. It was no accident that the association completed the last 5-year plan successfully and is working steadily in this one.

Unfortunately there are not many such cases yet. Working and living conditions in the republic require major improvements. Of all the social problems, the chief one is housing. Justifiable complaints are made about the trade and services workers. It was stated with indignation, for instance, that in Uzbekistan, even during the harvesting period, you cannot always buy fruit and vegetables in state and cooperative trade stores.

Medical services to the population are improving extremely slowly, it was noted at the plenum. Heartlessness and extortion on the part of hospital personnel and the low professional standard of many health workers still does not worry the collegium of the republic's Health Ministry and Minister S. Bakhramov. He spoke at the plenum. He tried to shift the blame for the shortcomings in the sector's work onto other departments. Law enforcement organs and Internal Affairs Minister U. Rakhimov were sharply criticized for failing to comply with constitutional rights and norms.

What If We Were More Exacting? [subhead]

Party committees and organizations, and above all the republic Communist Party Central Committee, are called upon to set an example of restructuring and be its motor and moving force. The Central Committee Bureau reported on the work to a recent plenum. Time has shown that not all the shortcomings were revealed.

The present plenum began with an unusual procedure: For serious shortcomings in her work, R. Abdullayeva was relieved of her duties as bureau member and secretary of the Central Committee. This decision was overdue -- for a long time the republic Communist Party Central Committee has been receiving complaints about unjustified actions on Abdullayeva's part. She violated the principles of selection and placing of cadres, failed to be objective in assessing the work of certain leaders, sheltered her proteges, and ignored the opinion of the party committees.

Why did this become possible? Perhaps the accurate diagnosis was that made by T. Alimov, first secretary of Tashkent Party Obkom:

The Central Committee Bureau has not yet managed to overcome indecisiveness or abandon its wait-and-see position. Miscalculations and omissions in ideological work have been in evidence for a long time. This has been spoken of many times at bureau meetings and plenums. There have been repeated criticisms of Abdullayeva herself. She did not admit to any errors. We bureau members must display more firmness and rid ourselves as quickly as possible of our accustomed approaches. This applies especially to the Central Committee secretaries, and above all to First Secretary I. Usmankhodzhayev.

The work style of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee was also criticized by party obkom first secretaries A. Klepikov, N. Radzhabov, K. Salykov, and A. Yefimov, and by A. Mukhtarov, editor of the newspaper SELSKAYA PRAVDA. The faulty practice in cadre selection and placing on the party of the Central Committee was exposed roundly and conclusively by S. Khodzhayeva, first secretary of the Frunzenskiy party raykom in Tashkent.

Analyzing the course of the restructuring, the plenum noted that first and foremost it is necessary to improve the work of party raykoms and gorkoms, which are closest of all to the primary party organizations and labor collectives.

The following examples, in particular, were cited. R. Safarov, first secretary of Fergana Oblast's Yazyavanskiy Raykom, understood the restructuring thus: He turned the apparatus into a center for the collection of all kinds of information. If people fail to fulfill his instructions, even if these are not within his powers, he regards it as an encroachment on his authority. The workers of Khorezm Oblast's Bagatskiy Raykom spend most of their time on the telephone and at conferences. R. Khatamov, first secretary of Syr-Darya Oblast's Ilichevskiy Raykom and candidate member of the republic Communist Party Central Committee, protected leaders who had messed things up and moved from post to post.

The plenum also discussed the fact that in many cases primary party organizations fail to take principled positions and are led by the nose by negligent economic leaders. Attempts on the part of certain zealous administrators to command the party organizations are by no means isolated occurrences. One who particularly "distinguished himself" was A. Ilkhamov, former director of the Tashkent refrigerator combine, who, when issuing orders, gave an assessment of the activity of the party bureau. [paragraph continues]

What is even more alarming is that neither Khamzinskiy Raykom nor its first secretary, F. Nazhiumitdinov, saw anything extraordinary in that.

In the republic party organization the first steps have been taken to introduce democratic principles in work with cadres. Frank, open discussions of all persons nominated for promotion are becoming the rule at party meetings. The election of leaders in labor collectives is becoming the practice. More than 9,000 people have recently been discussed at meetings and elected leaders. The plenum demanded the further development of appointment of leaders by election, without permitting formalism in this important matter.

AZERBAIJAN PLENUM VIEWS FARM STORAGE, MAKES CHANGES

PM031455 Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 22 Mar 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Information Report on the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] There was an Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Community Plenum on 21 March.

The plenum examined measures on implementing the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On the Work of Azerbaijan SSR Party, Soviet, and Economic Bodies on Fulfilling the 27th CPSU Congress Demands on Accelerating the Development of the Agro-industrial Complex' Processing and Storage Facilities."

K.M. Bagirov, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, delivered a report.

There was a debate on the report, contributions being made by Z.S. Gadzhiyev, chairman of the Nakhichevan ASSR Council of Ministers; B.S. Kevorkov, first secretary of Nagorno-Karabakh Azerbaijan Communist Party Obkom; M.S. Mamedov, first deputy chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the republic State Agro-industrial Committee; L.A. Sokolov, second secretary of Baku party gorkom; Z.G. Abdullayev, first secretary of Khachmasskiy Azerbaijan Communist Party Raykom; S.M. Velimamedov, first secretary of Geokchayskiy Azerbaijan Communist Party Raykom; T.M. Kolodina, seamstress at the Volodarskiy factory; Z.A. Mamedov, first secretary of Apsheronkiy Azerbaijan Communist Party Raykom; R.D. Dzhamilov, republic minister of grain products; N.V. Nikitin, chairman of the Kalinin Kolkhoz in Ismailinskiy Rayon; R.M. Bedirov, first secretary of Kusarskiy Azerbaijan Communist Party Raykom; A. Ya. Mailov, instrument control team leader at the Kirovabad 50th Anniversary of the USSR aluminum plant; and M.M. Ashurov, first secretary of Kazakhskiy Azerbaijan Communist Party Raykom.

Comrade K.M. Bagirov delivered the closing speech,

A resolution was adopted on the matter under discussion.

The plenum examined some organizational matters.

The plenum relieved I.A. Mamedov of the post of secretary and member of the Bureau of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee on his retirement.

III. 8 Apr 87

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USSR NATIONAL AFFAIRS
POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

T.Kh. Orudzhev, was elected secretary and member of the Bureau of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee.

A.M. Guseyn-Kulibekov was confirmed as chief of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Trade and Consumer Services Department.

The plenum confirmed the following newspaper editorial appointments: R.G. Akhmedov of KOMMUNIST; G.G. Glushkov of BAKINSKIY ROBOCHIVY; Yu.M. Ivanov of VYSEKA; A.M. Guliyev of SOVET KENDI; R.I. Makhmudov -- chief editor of AZERBAYDZHAN KOMMUNISTI; and R.I. Makhmudov of KOMMUNIST AZERBAYDZHANA.

The following senior officials attended the plenum: I.N. Kuzmin from the CPSU Central Committee and I.I. Sukharev from the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee.

AZERBAIJAN OFFICIALS NOTE 'SHORTCOMINGS'

NC020909 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1600 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] The Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee has adopted a decision in connection with deficiencies in the work of the Dzhahal-Abad dn Zardobskiy Rayons Party Committees aimed at upgrading the production and sale of livestock breeding products during the 1986-87 winter season.

The decision indicated the serious shortcomings in the guidance given by party committees for the development of livestock breeding and in their efforts to mobilize the Communists and the other work collectives with a view to upgrading the production and procuring of meat, milk, and other livestock breeding products. They said rayon party committees have not carried out the required organizational and mass political work for the successful winter survival of cattle. The production of many livestock breeding firms lagged behind. Ancillary service centers have not been adequately supplied. The provision of food for the workers has not been carried out in an organized way. There have also been serious deficiencies in trade, social, and medical services.

The details of the decision have been published in the press.

TURKMEN PARTY ANNOUNCES PERSONNEL CHANGES

LD041026 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 4 Apr 87

[Text] A plenum of Ashkhabad Obkom of the Turkmenistan Communist Party has discussed the tasks of the Oblast party organization in carrying out the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum on restructuring and the party's cadres policy.

The plenum considered an organizational matter. Comrade Mogilevets has been released from his duties as Obkom first secretary in connection with his appointment as first deputy chairman of the Turkmen SSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the republic's State Agro-Industrial Committee.

Comrade Chertishechev, who had previously been working as second secretary of Ashkhabad Obkom, has been elected Obkom first secretary. Comrade Niyazov, first secretary of the Turkmenistan Communist Party Central Committee, also took part in the work of the plenum.

III. 8 Apr 87

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USSR NATIONAL AFFAIRS
POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

GEORGIAN PAPER NOTES JUSTICE MINISTER'S OUSTING

AU051419 Paris AFP in English 1223 GMT 5 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow, April 5 (AFP) -- Georgian Justice Minister Aleksandr Shushanashvili has been dismissed, according to an official announcement in the Georgian newspaper ZARYA VOSTOKA.

The paper's edition from last Wednesday, which reached here Sunday, did not give the reasons for the minister's dismissal.

But it followed the recent ousting of the deputy prime minister, light industry minister and mayor of the southern republic's capital, Tbilisi, along with three deputy construction ministers, in connection with a corruption scandal involving millions of rubles.

PRAVDA UKRAINY PROFILES COUNCIL CHAIRMAN GURENKO

AU031036 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 26 Mar 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Stanislav Invanovich Gurenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee candidate member and secretary"]

[Text] Born in 1936, S.I. Gurenko is a Ukrainian, a CPSU member since 1961; he has a higher education -- in 1958, he graduated from the Polytechnical Institute in Kiev; he is a candidate of economic sciences.

Having graduated from the institute, he has been working 16 years at the Donetsk machine building plant named after the 15th anniversary of the Ukrainian Komsomol. He has covered the path from engineer to the director of a large enterprise.

In 1976, he was elected Donetsk Obkom secretary, and since March 1980, he has been Ukrainian Council of Ministers deputy chairman.

He is a member of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee.

He has been a deputy to the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet of the 10th and the 11th convocations.

ALMA-ATA REPORTS KOLBIN TOUR OF EKIBASTUZ

LD070925 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Kazakh 0200 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] Comrade Kolbin, first secretary of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan Central Committee, visited Ekibastuz yesterday. He met the specialists, leaders and workers of the enterprises at GRES-2 which is under construction, and the Ekibastuz-Center and Ekibastuz-Ural substations, as well as GRES-1 and coal fields.

The first secretary of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan Central Committee paid attention to the direction of construction and the problems while he was sightseeing at housing and industrial centers. He talked with the people and made inquiries as to whether they were satisfied with the food supplies and other necessary goods.

Comrade Kolbin also met secretaries of primary party organizations of the establishments and enterprises of the town at the Ekibastuz Town Party Committee. He noted that some reforms on economic and social development should not discourage anyone. The main elements still lay ahead and they consisted of more effective fulfillment of socialist tasks and instructions.

On his tour Comrade Kolbin was accompanied by Meshcheryakov, secretary of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan Central Committee; Yerpilov, first secretary of the Pavlodar Oblast Party Committee; Yedil'bayev, and Krasnoselskiy, heads of departments of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan Central Committee; Kazachkov, minister of the Kazakh SSR Power and Electrification.

PRAVDA, IZVESTIYA CARRY SIGNED OBITUARIES

Kemerovo Obkom Chief

PM010939 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Mar 87 First Edition p 3

[Obituary of Nikolay Spiridonovich Yermakov]

[Text] Nikolay Spiridonovich Yermakov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet deputy, and first secretary of the Kemerovo Party Obkom died 28 March 1987, aged 60, after a serious illness.

N.S. Yermakov was born 7 January 1927 at Dorogobuzh, Smolensk Oblast, into a worker family. He had been a member of the CPSU since 1961. He started his working career in 1944 as a technician at a plant in Novokuznetsk, Kemerovo Oblast.

After graduating from the Siberian Metallurgy Institute he worked as deputy head of a coal mining trust capital construction section and as chief engineer and head of a mine construction directorate. In 1966 N.S. Yermakov was assigned to party work, rising from secretary, to second secretary, to first secretary of the Novokuznetsk party gorkom, then to second secretary of the Kemerovo CPSU Obkom. In 1984-1985 N.S. Yermakov worked as first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Heavy Industry and Power Engineering Section. In April 1985 N.S. Yermakov was elected first secretary of the Kemerovo CPSU Obkom.

In all the sectors entrusted to him N.S. Yermakov worked with utter devotion and displayed great organizational talent, single-mindedness, and persistence. He was a man of high principles whose characteristic qualities were exactingness, a high standard of organization, constant concern for people's needs, and a sensitive and attentive attitude toward them. This won him the genuine respect of the oblast's working people; he was well known among the miners and metallurgists, construction and chemical industry workers, and workers in the fields and at livestock units.

N.S. Yermakov was a delegate to the 25th, 26th, and 27th party congresses and was elected member of the CPSU Central Committee at the 27th congress. He was elected deputy of the 11th USSR Supreme Soviet and the 9th, 10th, and 11th RSFSR Supreme Soviets.

Highly appreciating N.S. Yermakov's services, the CPSU and the Soviet state bestowed on him the Order of Lenin and three Orders of the Labor Red Banner and medals.

The bright memory of Nikolay Spiridonovich Yermakov, a loyal son of the Communist Party and the Soviet people, will live on in our hearts forever.

M.S. Gorbachev, G.A. Aliyev, V.I. Vorotnikov, A.A. Gromyko, L.N. Zaykov, Ye.K. Ligachev, N.I. Ryzhkov, M.S. Solomentsev, V.M. Chebrikov, E.A. Shevardnadze, V.V. Shcherbitskiy, P.N. Demichev, V.I. Dolgikh, B.N. Yeltsin, N.N. Slyunkov, S.L. Sokolov, Yu.F. Solovyev, N.V. Talyzin, A.N. Yakovlev, A.P. Biryukova, A.F. Dobrynin, A.I. Lukyanov, V.A. Medvedev, V.P. Nikonov, G.P. Razumovskiy, I.V. Kapitonov, V.V. Bakatin, L.A. Gorshkov, N. YE. Kruchina, F.V. Popov, Ye.z. Razumov, V.I. Sitnikov, I.P. Yastrebov, L.S. Boyeva, P.M. Dorofeyev, A.P. Dubrovskiy, V.S. Kostin, P.S. Loskutov, V.P. Luchshev, A.F. Lyutenko, V.I. Ovdenko, B.N. Poletskov, V.I. Romanov, G.I. Savinkov, V.N. Sitko, N.G. Kochetkov, V.A. Markov, A.V. Trutiyev, V.S. Urayskiy.

Former Lithuanian Official

PM231506 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Mar 87 First Edition p 6

[Obituary: "Iosif Antonovich Manyushis"]

[Excerpts] Iosif Antonovich Manyushis, member of the CPSU since 1945, personal pensioner at union level, and former chairman of the Lithuanian SSR Council of Ministers, died on 17 March 1987 at the age of 76. [passage omitted]

Ye.K. Ligachev, N.I. Ryzhkov, P.N. Demichev, N.V. Talyzin, G.P. Razumovskiy, I.V. Kapitonov, P.P. Grishkyavichus, R.-B. I. Songayla V.V. Sakalauskas, N.A. Mitkin, V.S. Astrauskas, Yu.I. Bernatavichus, A.-M. K. Brazauskas, A.K. Kayryalis, V.K. Mikuchauskas, Yu.Yu. Petkyavichyus, A.A. Ferensas, L.K. Shepetis, P.P. Shileykis.

'Distinguished Artist' Oreshnikov

PM201047 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 6

[Obituary of Viktor Mikhaylovich Oreshnikov]

[Excerpts] Soviet art has suffered a severe loss. Professor Viktor Mikhaylovich Oreshnikov, outstanding Soviet artist, active member of the USSR Academy of Art, people's artist of the USSR, and USSR State Prize winner, has died at the age of 83. [passage omitted]

G.A. Aliyev, V.I. Vorotnikov, Ye.K. Ligachev, Yu.F. Solovyev, A.N. Yakovlev, Yu.P. Voronov, Yu.A. Sklyarov, V.G. Zakharov, A.N. Gerasimov, Ye.M. Chekharin, M.K. Anikushin, A.A. Belyayev, A.M. Gritsay, A.YA. Degtyarev, Ye.V. Zaytsev, V.V. Karpov, V.S. Kemenov, A.P. Kibalnikov, E.G. Klimov, Yu.K. Korolev, P.N. Krylov, M.V. Kupriyanov, K.Yu. Lavrov, V.A. Lenyashin, D.S. Likhachev, G.M. Markov, Yu.S. Melentyev, Ye.Ye. Moiseyenko, A.A. Mylnikov, D.A. Nalbandyan, I.A. Naumenko, Yu.M. Neprintsev, V.B. Pinchuk, B.B. Piotrovskiy, N.A. Ponomarev, M.V. Posokhin, F.P. Reshetnikov, K.I. Rozhdestvenskiy, T.T. Salakhov, N.A. Sokolov, P.M. Sysoyev, S.P. Tkachev, B.S. Ugarov, P.T. Fomin V.Ya. Khodyrev, T.N. Khrennikov, D.A. Shmarinov

Soviet Film Animator

PM031433 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 6

[Obituary of Ivan Petrovich Ivanov-Vano]

[Excerpts] Soviet cinematographic art has suffered a great loss. Ivan Petrovich Ivanov-Vano, one of the leading Soviet cinema directors, a member of the CPSU, a USSR people's artiste, and RSFSR State Prize laureate, has passed away at the age of 83. His name is linked with the formation and development of Soviet animated cartoon. [passage omitted]

G.A. Aliyev, Ye.K. Ligachev, B.N. Yeltsin, A.N. Yakovlev, Yu.P. Voronov, V.G. Zakharov, A.I., Kamsharov, E.G. Klimov, Yu.S. Afanasyev, A.A. Belyayev, Ye.I. Gabrilovich, Ye.V. Zaytsev, A.G. Zarkhi, Yu.S. Karabasov, V.V. Karpov, L.A. Kulidzhanov, K.Yu. Lavrov, T.F. Makarova, G.M. Markov, V.I. Mironenko, I.A. Naumenko, Yu.B. Norshteyn, S.V. Obratsov, N.A. Ponomarev, Yu.Ya. Rayzman, N.T. Sizov, E.V. Stachenkov, N.Ya. Sychev, I.Ye. Kheyfits, F.S. Khitruk, T.N. Khrennikov, and G.N. Chukhray.

Riga Association Chief

PM301144 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Mar 87 Second Edition p 6

[Obituary: "Oleg Konstantinovich Lenev"]

[Excerpts] Oleg Konstantinovich Lenev, member of the CPSU, Hero of Socialist Labor, and general director of the Riga V.I. Lenin State Electrical Equipment Plant Production Association, died 25 March 1987 at the age of 60. [passage omitted]

L.N. Zaykov, N.N. Slyunkov, N.V. Talyzin, A.P. Biryukova Yu.d. Maslyukov, B.K. Pugo, O.S. Belyakov, E.K. Pervyshin, P.S. Pleshakov, V.G. Kolesnikov, V.A. Shamshin, Ya.Ya. Bagris, Yu.ya. Ruben V.P. Sobolev, Ya.Ya. Okherin, V.A. Kripytis, V.G. Andrushchenko, G.I. Vasilyev, G.I. Korneyev, K.I. Kuk, V.P. Romanov, G.I. Shirokov, R.A. Tursunov, A.P. Klautsen, F.A. Kornelius, I.R. Brazhis, O.K. Tolmachev, Z.L. Antapsons, Ya. Ya. Karklinsh.

PRAVDA DEMANDS SWIFTER RESTRUCTURING OF PLANNING

PMO21331 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Mar 87 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "The Autonomy of the Plan. The Restructuring of Planning Must Not Be Allowed To Lag"]

[Text] Planning is described as one of the most important scientific and social gains of our age. It is inseparably linked with socialism, which represents its advantages and the main method of economic leadership. Rightly, we link our achievements and our hopes with it: With the help of the plan, very complex national economic tasks are resolved efficiently and resources and time are used with utmost effectiveness. However, it is no less true that many economic difficulties are engendered by defects in the organization of planning.

"The authority of the plan as the main instrument of economic policy," M.S. Gorbachev said at the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum, "has been undermined by subjectivist approaches, a lack of balance and stability, a desire to cover everything right down to the smallest detail, an excess of decisions at sector or regional level unrelated to the plan and frequently adopted without due regard for actual possibilities."

However, shortcomings in planning do not call in question the positive nature of the plan; they do not cancel out the need for the plan-governed development of the socialist economy. In pointing to unsolved problems, the party is demanding that the process of improving planning be accelerated.

The radical reform of the economic mechanism is intended to bring into play long-term factors of social production growth. In order to achieve this it is necessary to make more effective use of the law of plan-governed development. It is impermissible to pit the plan against financial autonomy, which is sometimes done not just by publicists but also by some economists, or to present the mistakes and incompetence of individual planners as drawbacks of planning or even of the planned management of the economy. Identifying planning with administration by injunction means closing our eyes to the experience accumulated in the USSR and in other socialist community countries; it means forgetting that it was no accident that the establishment of the Gosplan coincided with the elaboration of the principles of the New Economic Policy by Lenin.

It is a fact borne out by practical experience that good management is impossible without planning. It must, of course, be good planning based on profound analytical and scientific work and on comprehensively substantiated economic decisions. The plan has the force of law. However, this must not be used to justify a lack of initiative and socialist enterprise. There is scope for creativity both during the compilation of plan projections and during the plans' implementation. Expressing statewide interests and resolutely rejecting departmental ambitions, planning must creatively combine the proposals from local level and the broad economic horizon of the central authorities.

The restructuring of the national economy demands that the USSR Gosplan should truly become the headquarters of the economy. A certain amount of work is already under way in this area. [paragraph continues]

However, does its pace meet the demands of the present? Understandably, abandoning a predominantly statistical approach to the assessment of any problem, emphasis on the profound analysis of economic situations from national economic positions as an indispensable attribute of planning decisions, and rejection of departmental or local interests -- all these are tasks which cannot be resolved overnight. Therefore our work must be all the more purposeful.

The authority of the plan is largely determined by whether it has become a guideline for action for economic managers or whether it merely represents some kind of formal framework to which the results of work have to be aligned by means of amendments. Systematic monitoring of the fulfillment of plan targets is a most important Leninist principle of the organization of planning. To constantly ensure that this is done is the paramount duty of planning organs. And what is more, the monitoring of the observance of plan discipline must not be superficial or formal, which is still sometimes the case. The situation in all areas of the national economy depends largely on the scrupulousness of planning workers.

The mission of planning organ workers is a great and responsible one. In order to discharge it successfully they need "broad initiative, revolutionary boldness in posing questions, and bolshevist, Marxist realism in assessing the situation." These party demands on planning workers formulated more than 50 years ago by V.V. Kuybyshev have lost none of their topicality even today. Unfortunately, by no means are all workers guided by them. It happens that during the examination of major questions planning workers are constrained by canons which they themselves have created and which should long since have been replaced by new principles in line with modern conditions. However, as the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum noted, restructuring in the planning area is proceeding too slowly and lagging behind the economic transformations in the production area. Yet everything that is happening in production presupposes additional changes in the function of the general economic departments and their organs at local level.

Today every enterprise needs a clear perspective. And this can and must be provided by planning. In order to achieve this, the role of the 5-year plan throughout the area of economic activity must be enhanced. We cannot tolerate a departure from this form of planning and its replacement by annual plans. Planning organs must not pit one against the other but must pursue the aim of their close interconnection and the constant improvement of the system of long-term, medium-term, and current planning.

Another important task is to gear general economic proportions and national economic development rates more closely to economic normatives. The feasibility of the plan largely depends on the quality of the normatives. Lately, progressive economic normatives have, to some extent, been applied thanks to the efforts of the planning organs and of the ministries, enterprises, and scientific organizations. However, not all the problems have as yet been resolved.

The authority of the plan depends to a considerable degree on how well adjusted its system of indicators is. This system must be constantly improved. In accordance with the documents of the 27th party congress, it is necessary to gear indicators more to national economic end results and to strengthen those of them which reflect resource-utilization efficiency and output quality and the scale of its renewal.

The question of enhancing the scientific standard of planning remains on the agenda.
[paragraph continues]

More attention must be paid to developing the theory of planning. Science has a great debt to settle with practical work: In recent years no fundamental research work has been completed on topical problems pertaining to the improvement of planning. The potential of the USSR Gosplan and republic institutes is not being used effectively enough. Planning organ research requests frequently have narrow applications, and the number of additional targets is great. The quality of the scientific work of many research institutes does not meet the demands for the radical restructuring of planning work.

The Leninist ideas of socialist planning have passed the most rigorous test, the test of time. They are being constantly developed and enriched by practice. Exploiting more fully the great potential inherent in planning means resolving the tasks of the socioeconomic acceleration of our society's development more successfully and swiftly.

MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION MEETS

PM071423 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 15, Apr 87 (Signed to Press 2 Apr 87) p 7

[Unattributed report: "In the Commission for the Improvement of Management, Planning, and the Economic Machinery"]

[Text] A session of the Commission for the Improvement of Management, Planning, and the Economic Machinery, set up by a USSR Council of Ministers resolution, has examined the question of the system of bonus payments to associations, enterprises, and organizations in respect of output deliveries for export. The 1986 amounts of payments into the bonus payments funds of associations, enterprises, and organizations in respect of output deliveries for export will remain in force in 1987. Their workers will receive bonus payments for the manufacture and prompt shipment of high quality output according to the conditions laid down by economic contracts, and in the future, pending the conclusion of such contracts, according to conditions laid down by supply orders.

The question of transferring the Belorussian Railroad to complete financial autonomy and self-capitalization on an experimental basis was examined. The basic indicators and principles of the transfer were approved.

Approval was given to Basic Guidelines for the Procedure for Forming and Utilizing the Material Incentives Fund and the Fund for Social and Cultural Measures and Housing Construction at Enterprises and Organizations in Housing and Municipal Services in 1987-90.

A decision was adopted to expand the rights and enhance the responsibility of the leaders of associations, enterprises, and organizations transferred to complete financial autonomy as regards expenditures from their wages funds and material incentives funds. In the event of the actual wages fund being in excess of the nominal wages fund as calculated under the established normatives for its formation (taking into account the actual results of work), the leaders of such associations, enterprises, and organizations are allowed to use part of the material incentives fund for the payment of wages, subject to the labor collectives' agreement, without taking such sums into account when calculating overexpenditure from the wages fund.

In such cases, and for the purpose of calculating the next year's plan, the base wages fund is reduced by an amount equivalent to that by which the actual wages fund has exceeded the nominal fund.

The commission gave its consent to a proposal by the USSR Ministry of Trade to transfer to new conditions of economic management as of 1 April 1987 trade enterprises (organizations) and management organs within the systems of the RSFSR Ministry of Trade and the Ukrainian SSR Ministry of Trade as follows: In the Chuvash ASSR, in Khabarovsk Krai, and in Saratov, Yaroslavl, Ivano-Frankovsk, Nikolayev, and Chernigov Oblasts, dining rooms under Moscow's Proletarskiy Trust, the "Rostorgreklama" Republican Association, and the "Aychurek" Central Department Store under the Kirghiz SSR Ministry of Trade.

In order to secure financing of work for the retooling and reconstruction of existing production units and to prepare for transfer to work under conditions of complete financial autonomy, the commission has made an exception and has given permission to USSR ministries and departments whose enterprises operate under new conditions of economic management to centralize in 1987 part of the depreciation allowance funds allocated for the total replacement of fixed capital and credited to production development funds according to the normative for the formation of such funds as laid down by the ministry (department).

These centralized funds will be channeled into the retooling and reconstruction of scientific research and experimental design organizations and enterprises earning small profits or making a plan loss, and also into the financing of similar works of a sector-wide nature.

Approval was given to Regulations on the Formation and Expenditure of Material Incentives Funds and Funds for Social and Cultural Measures and Housing Construction (Incentives Funds) in the Construction Industry (Contract Work) for 1987-90. They will apply to all ministries, departments, and organizations engaged in contractual construction and installation work.

Approval was given to the final version of the Standard Regulations for the Normative Method for Profits Distribution During the 12th 5-Year Plan Period in Associations and Enterprises Transferred to Complete Financial Autonomy (its full text is published on page 23 of our weekly's current issue).

TASS NOTES COSMOS-1834 SATELLITE LAUNCH 8 APR

LD080930 Moscow TASS in English 0921 GMT 8 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 8 TASS -- The Soviet Union today launched an earth satellite of the Cosmos series, Cosmos-1834.

Its on-board equipment is intended for continuing study of outer space. The satellite has been placed in the orbit with the following parameters:

- Initial period of revolution -- 92.8 minutes,
- Maximum distance from the earth's surface -- 443 kilometres,
- Minimum distance from the earth's surface -- 413 km,
- Inclination of the orbit -- 65 degrees.

The equipment is functioning normally.

MIR CREW HOLDS SPACE CENTER NEWS CONFERENCE

LD072229 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1847 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Excerpt] Esteemed comrades, we now offer you reportage from a news conference organized by USSR Glavkosmos, which took place late yesterday evening at Flight Control Center. Questions from Soviet and foreign correspondents were answered by flight controllers and the crew aboard the Mir orbital station. [video begins, with narration by Slipchenko]

[Slipchenko] For many journalists this was their first time at Flight Control Center, and the meeting therefore began in the so-called Blue Room, where the chief of the center, Vladimir Ivanovich Lobachev, talked about how our country's space flights are organized. [video shows journalists gathered round tables in Blue Room. The main wall is covered with pictures and diagrams; Lobachev standing in front of one showing the tracks of succeeding orbits superimposed on a projection of the earth. Maj-Gen Avn Leonov is seated nearby, as are the Syrian cosmonaut-trainees.]

The specialists answered journalists' questions, of which there were many. Interest in Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin's flight is growing. It is they who will welcome the first international crews aboard the Mir station, and the would-be candidates were presented to the international journalists.

Aleksandr Ivanovich Dunayev, chief of USSR Glavkosmos, talked about the work now being conducted for a successful docking of the Mir station with the Kvant astrophysical module. [video shows Dunayev addressing the gathering]

[Dunayev] And so as to be able to carry out this operation in a fairly reliable way we are conducting certain, so to speak, tests; we are checking tolerances and settings, looking at the dynamics, at how the dynamics of large masses works. Bear in mind, what we have here is 20 tonnes on one side, and 20 tonnes on the other, and this gives rise to dynamic moments which we are now checking on. And when this check is complete we shall announce the data and what we plan to do next about docking. We are not keeping this secret.

[Slipchenko] The news conference lasted just under 30 minutes, but the Mir's orbit was such that only a little over 10 minutes was allotted for talking in the first communications session. [video shows journalists in main control room. A large screen on the wall shows Mir's orbital track, and a smaller screen shows Romanenko and Laveykin inside the Mir. [passage omitted]]

[Unidentified speaker] How long is your flight to be? A few years back you voiced the opinion that the optimal period for a crew to be working in orbit was 3 or 4 months. Yet the length of space missions is continuing to increase. Do you regard this as advisable?

[Romanenko] There are, of course, a number of reasons that suggest 3 or 4 months as the optimal duration for a flight. But we shall make no secret of the fact that our flight is to be a lengthy one. The program has been devised in collaboration with specialists from the USSR Academy of Sciences, to look at our physical state. Our health is being closely monitored. And the duration of our flight is mainly determined by the need to make more effective use of expensive space equipment in orbit, expensive scientific apparatus.

[Unidentified speaker] A question for Laveykin. You have now been in space for 60 days. What have been the main features of this first segment of the flight? How has the process of adaptation gone for you?

[Laveykin] I would distinguish two different kinds of adaptation. There is physical adaptation, and what we might call psychological adaptation. Physical adaptation was very quickly accomplished; literally in 3 to 5 days I was already feeling very well; I had become used to weightlessness and got down to work. As for psychological adaptation to what were for me completely new conditions, those of working in space, that took about a month. In that time I became used to the new working conditions, mastered certain actions which man needs only in space, when he is working in conditions of weightlessness. I now feel very confident in my work, and we are carrying out the program.

[Unidentified speaker] Tsiolkovskiy dreamed of settlements in space. Now specific plans are in prospect. Which of them do you regard as most realistic?

[Romanenko] Well, our space complex is just one such settlement, for instance, for in addition to working and carrying out scientific experiments we also live and spend our leisure time here. As for the future, well, I believe there will be even larger-scale experiments in space, new stations that will be superior to ours both in size and in the equipment they carry. That is my answer.

PARIS-MIR TELEBRIDGE TO BE HELD 14 APRIL

LD032150 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1528 GMT 3 Apr 87

[Text] Paris, 3 Apr TASS -- TASS correspondent Viktor Khrekov reports: Millions of French television viewers, and also several thousand lucky people who have succeeded in getting tickets to "Zenith", one of Paris' largest concert halls, will have the opportunity of talking to Soviet cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin, who are presently working on board the Soviet orbital space station "Mir." It has been announced here that a Paris - "Mir" station telebridge will be held on 14 April. It is being organized by the French "Canal Plus" television company in cooperation with USSR Glavkosmos.

During a 30-minute meeting with the Soviet cosmonauts, viewers and those present in the "Zenith" will have the opportunity of getting acquainted with the station's layout, and of seeing how the "space laborers" live and work. The cosmonauts will also speak of their hobbies, musical tastes and favorite films.

VII. WESTERN EUROPE DAILY REPORT

Contents unchanged

VIII. SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA DAILY
REPORT

Renamed; formerly SOUTH ASIA DAILY
REPORT; contents include:

International Affairs

Inter-African Affairs

Central Africa

Burundi

Cameroon

Central African Republic

Congo

Equatorial Guinea

Gabon

Rwanda

Sao Tome & Principe

Zaire

East Africa

Djibouti

Ethiopia

Kenya

Somalia

Tanzania

Uganda

Indian Ocean

Comoros

Madagascar

Mauritius

Seychelles

Southern Africa

Angola

Botswana

Lesotho

Malawi

Mozambique

Namibia

Republic of South Africa

Reunion

Swaziland

Zambia

Zimbabwe

Western Africa

Benin

Burkina Faso

Cape Verde Islands

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Mali

Niger

Nigeria

Senegal

Sierra Leone

Togo

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